

# Report – Hokianga Accord Oturei Marae hui

## 12 – 13 May 2011



4 July 2011

### Contents

Executive Summary .....	1
Introduction .....	2
200 Underwater turbines in the Kaipara .....	2
Guarding Kaikoura's coastline .....	2
Controversial foreshore legislation .....	3
Principles .....	4
A statutory body for recreational interests .....	5
Aquaculture reform process update .....	5
Tuna fishing in the Pacific .....	6
Deep sea oil drilling .....	7
Kahawai management .....	7
Soil science and environmental impacts .....	8
Guardians of Hawke Bay fisheries .....	8
Regional recreational forums .....	8
Relationship with the Crown .....	9
Te Puna Mataitai .....	9
Next Accord hui .....	9
LegaSea .....	9
Guardians of the Sea .....	9
Evaluation session .....	9

### Executive Summary

Around 60 people attended the two-day Hokianga Accord hui held at Oturei Marae, Poutu, Kaipara on the 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> May 2011. This was the 15<sup>th</sup> overnight meeting of the mid north iwi fisheries forum since 2005.

Keynote presentations from local Ngati Whatua hapu Te Uri o Hau and Mark Solomon, Ngai Tahu Kaiwhakahaere [Chairman], paved the way for interesting discussions and several resolutions, all aimed at achieving the collective goal of "more fish in the water/kia maha atu nga ika ki roto i te wai".

Naida Glavish, Ngati Whatua Chairperson, was a late withdrawal from the hui due to official commitments in Wellington. The hui acknowledged Mihi Watene, Chairperson of Te Uri o Hau Settlement Trust, who could not be at Oturei due to health problems, and the wives and husbands who kept the home fires burning while their partners spent two days talking about fisheries and marine matters.

Healthy debate followed the New Zealand Recreational Fishing Council's discussion to change how amateur fishermen are managed. This would lead to the establishment of a statutory body and the Council would not rule out licensing.

More than 50 percent of Maori fish in the sea, so taxing people fishing for food will have a major impact on hapu and whanau. Maori suffer many diet-money related issues so limiting access to a healthy food source does not make sense, financially, socially or culturally.

In a tag team-type presentation the implications of increased aquaculture development was discussed from both a commercial and non-commercial perspective. Maori have a major commercial interest in developing aquaculture, but there are environmental and social issues associated with marine farming. The Accord will continue to monitor the progress of the Aquaculture Legislation Amendment Bill (No3).

Greenpeace's Karli Thomas and Mike Smith presented some startling data on purse seine catch of tuna and the consequences, in New Zealand, of using Fish Aggregation Devices in the Pacific region. They also discussed the latest protest activities against the Brazilian company Petrobras' deep-sea oil drilling operation in the Raukumara Basin, off East Cape.

Their contribution and that of many others to the two-day hui is appreciated. People left Oturei Marae with a better understanding of the complex and often abstract concepts of fisheries management and marine protection. An important aspect of these multi-cultural, multi-sector hui is that valued relationships are reinforced and nourished with mutual respect, aroha, generosity and hospitality.

This report was commissioned by the Hokianga Accord and written by Trish Rea. Feel free to download a copy of the hui report from [www.HokiangaAccord.co.nz](http://www.HokiangaAccord.co.nz). You are welcome to email Trish Rea at [trish@moanaconsultants.co.nz](mailto:trish@moanaconsultants.co.nz) for a DVD of Mark Solomon's sessions.

## **Introduction**

The Hokianga Accord brings together the commercial and non-commercial interests of Ngapuhi, Ngati Whatua, other northern iwi and hapu, environmental and fishing interest groups. Greenpeace, the Environment and Conservation Organisations of Aotearoa New Zealand, Forest & Bird, option4 and NZ Sport Fishing Council representatives are regular contributors to the Accord's hui.

The intention of this Forum is to assist the Minister of Fisheries (the Minister) fulfil, in part, the Crown's ongoing statutory obligation to provide for the input and participation of tangata whenua having a non-commercial interest in fisheries, an interest in the effects of fishing on the aquatic environment while having particular regard to kaitiakitanga. (Fisheries Act 1996, s12 (1) (b))

Accord co-chairman Raniera (Sonny) Tau acknowledged the preparations by the forum's Working Group prior to the hui, the ringa wera [cooks, kitchen hands], both local and visitors and the hunga kainga [home people] of Oturei. Apologies were moved by co-chair George Riley and seconded by Geoff Rowling.

## **200 Underwater turbines in the Kaipara**

Ngati Whatua and Te Uri o Hau have serious concerns about the recent approval given by the Environment Court and Environment Minister for Crest Energy to install up to 200 power-generating turbines at the entrance of the Kaipara Harbour. Deborah Harding and Mikaera Miru presented documents that suggest these generators will be around 24 metres high, 25 metres wide and 30 metres long. Te Uri o Hau Settlement Trust has exhausted their financial resources in opposing this project. They appreciated the assistance received since the last Accord hui and are planning a hui in Poutu on May 29<sup>th</sup> to discuss the possibility of organising a flotilla of vessels at the proposed turbine site to highlight the issue.

Hundreds of people had attended earlier public meetings raising concerns about losing access to the Harbour entrance and popular fishing site the Graveyard, and the unknown effects the swinging blades creating electro-magnetic fields will have on the fisheries and sensitive harbour ecology. Research has shown that around 98 percent of the snapper on the west coast of the North Island spent some of their formative years in the Kaipara. Snapper is a fishery of social, economic and cultural importance to west coast people.

## **Guarding Kaikoura's coastline**

Mark Solomon, Kaiwhakahaere [Chairman] of Te Runanga o Ngai Tahu and Ranui Ngarimu attended the first day of the hui. Mark gave an uplifting explanation on how Te Korowai o Te Tai O Marokura, the Kaikoura Coastal Guardians, had achieved widespread public support for their initiatives to protect and preserve the marine environment and fisheries around Kaikoura Peninsula. Education was the key to

increasing public awareness enabling all interest groups, both commercial and non-commercial, to give-and-take, to achieve a sustainable fishery for future generations.

There was community support for exploring the concept developed by Ngati Wai of *rahui tapu* - a marine reserve that was reviewable after 25 years, but there is no existing legislative provision for this. Tangata whenua had been actively seeking community support for their mataitai applications through Te Korowai. Mark acknowledged the Ministry of Fisheries' 'prevent test' had resulted in some later applications being restricted in size due to the cumulative effect of displacing commercial fishing activity from local waters to further afield.

South Island iwi had declined to participate in the MFish proposed pan-iwi, national customary forum. That was because they considered the South Island customary regulations<sup>1</sup> were more advanced than those that apply in the North Island<sup>2</sup>. South Island iwi are now working with the Ministry to determine how a combined southern forum may work and possibly contract some services back to MFish.

Ngai Tahu was not advocating licensing of amateur fishers and Mark recognised that most of their food gathering activity is considered 'recreational'. However, they were keen to have a reporting system apply to monitor recreational take. They believed customary and commercial harvest was well documented and were concerned that proper fisheries management was not possible until recreational take was measured. This aspect created some vigorous debate. Mark accepted that monitoring is possible around Kaikoura as there are only around six boat-launching sites on their stretch of coastline, but it would not be a simple exercise elsewhere.

### **Controversial foreshore legislation**

Both Sonny Tau and Mark Solomon explained the involvement of the iwi leader's group in the discussions around the proposed foreshore Bill 2010, and subsequent Marine and Coastal Area (Takutai Moana) Act given Royal assent on 31 March 2011.

This legislation and process did not take into account the land lost by Maori due to confiscation, occupation or illegal means. Some areas had been sold, but those areas were identifiable. It was now unfair, unjust and immoral to only enable a customary claim for those areas that Maori could prove continuous, contiguous ownership since 1840.

There was an irony for Ngai Tahu and many other iwi that had reached a settlement with the Crown. Ngai Tahu's Treaty Settlements acknowledges and compensates for previous wrongs by the Crown. The Takutai Moana Act represents a double jeopardy for Maori, in that it penalises Maori twice for the actions taken by the Crown.

Despite assurances by the National and Maori parties the process is not over. An appeal has been made to the United Nations with the ultimate goal being a hearing in the World Court, but that can only occur after all legal avenues have been pursued in Aotearoa. This issue will keep coming back until it is settled fairly.

Mark assured the hui that the foreshore issue was never about excluding all New Zealanders from the beaches.

*"No tribe in the country has ever asked for exclusion, [the] exact opposite. We've stood up in every forum we can find and said 'every citizen of the land must have the right to go to the sea'."*

*"We need to find a solution that satisfies all New Zealanders. The legislation has been pushed through under haste, based on an unnecessary fear that Maori are going to stop people going to the beach, it's nonsense."*

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<sup>1</sup> Fisheries (South Island Customary Fishing) Regulations 1999.

<sup>2</sup> Fisheries (Kaimoana Customary Fishing) Regulations 1998.

A successful outcome would be a true partnership with the Crown, in recognition that Maori had not ceded sovereignty, and the ability to exercise kaitiakitanga, guardianship of people and the taonga [resources]. For example, 19 generations of Mark's family had lived by the sea in Oaro, Kaikoura. Success would mean his hapu and whanau were actively involved and had a significant say in managing this area, for the benefit of the wider community.

### ***Treaty settlements***

Ngai Tahu had been through the Waitangi Tribunal process and accepted a Crown settlement worth around 1% of the value of what had been lost. There is a lot of public ignorance about the Treaty settlement process and the reasons for it. These misunderstandings could be addressed if the government explained why settlement was necessary and that the eventual agreements are a small fraction of the true loss incurred by Maori.

### ***Department of Conservation***

Ngai Tahu has a very good relationship with the Department of Conservation at the conservator and local level, but not so good with the Wellington-based department. Since 1998 DoC had breached the Crown's settlement with Ngai Tahu 110 times. Ngai Tahu continues to seek redress and acknowledgement of these breaches.

### ***Deep sea drilling***

Mike Smith of Greenpeace questioned the involvement of iwi leaders in the oil exploration process and specifically mentioned the current Petrobas project looking for oil in the Raukumara Basin off East Cape.

Mark explained that in December 2010 he and several others approached the government asking for a framework for discussion so that all iwi, across the country, could engage in meaningful dialogue with the Crown regarding the government's plan for mining and oil exploration. John Key and Gerry Brownlee were keen to accept a draft engagement plan from this group.

This process failed when it was presented to the Iwi Leader's Group because there was misunderstanding amongst some iwi that these discussions sought to negotiate a deal with the Crown. This is not so. Iwi leaders share the concerns that Ngati Porou and Te Whanau a Apanui have regarding drilling in the active volcanic area of the Raukumara Basin. Ngai Tahu has specific concerns because some potential mining areas off the South Island are deeper than Raukumara.

Mark confirmed, *"We have not had approaches from the government, but the oil companies have been to see us. We have now started the process where they have to start talking with us. But not from the Crown, [we] haven't heard a thing from them"*.

Greenpeace confirmed Te Whanau a Apanui and Ngati Porou were desperately looking for inter-iwi support for their opposition to the Raukumara prospecting.

### **Principles**

A draft set of principles for the Hokianga Accord was distributed prior to the hui. There was a long discussion on whether these were appropriate for the Accord to use both internally and externally, as in submissions to other entities.

The general consensus was that the Hokianga Accord is a forum for the meeting of people with an interest in "more fish in the water/kia maha atu nga ika ki roto i te wai".

Rather than trying to reach a compromise on principles it was agreed that using consistent and encompassing language was important as the Accord increased its public awareness effort. Examples included using:

- Taonga - natural treasures, as opposed to resource;
- Kaitiakitanga - the sacred obligation to maintain natural systems for future generations; and
- Manaakitanga – the sacred obligation to care for people.

## **A statutory body for recreational interests**

In an effort to “*help the recreational sector to really step up to the responsibilities part of a fishing right*” Miranda O’Connell advised the hui that the New Zealand Recreational Fishing Council has initiated a process to “foster change,” because they cannot continue as a voluntary organisation advocating for recreational fishing interests.

Both Miranda, a consultant, and Geoff Rowling, the Council’s president, believed it was important to talk with the public about future fisheries management, including the possible establishment of a statutory body. Government would then be obliged to listen to advice from that entity. Its functions would depend on the level of funding it received.

Licensing recreational fishers is one way to fund that body, and is the simplest solution. However, the Council was keen to explore other funding options, as they did not want the threat of licensing to undermine their ‘change’ process.

They noted the recently announced Game Animal Council was a multi-interest body established as a result of the government’s confidence and supply agreement with the United Future Party<sup>3</sup>.

Geoff acknowledged that statutory power would not be granted easily, but would not speculate on what the government may seek in return for enabling a separate body to tax non-commercial fishers. The Council was against licensing being paid to the government, but it was up to the body’s establishment committee to decide if licensing was appropriate or required to sustain the statutory body.

Many at the hui disagreed with the Council’s assertions that recreational fishers submissions were ineffective. There have been many ‘wins,’ including the heartening clarification from the Supreme Court Kahawai Legal Challenge decision<sup>4</sup> that fisheries management is largely political, making our fisheries Ministers beholden to the people.

Maori needed to be involved in, and informed about, any changes to the status quo. The NZRFC were asked to note and advise later how people will be appointed to the establishment committee, as it was important to maintain dialogue with all the various non-commercial groups and because there is very strong opposition to licensing of people who are fishing for food.

## **Aquaculture reform process update**

Clive Monds, of the Environment and Conservation Organisations of Aotearoa New Zealand (ECO), was unable to be at the hui so he provided a written report on developments in the aquaculture sector. The government has initiated reforms to streamline the application and implementation process to encourage more shellfish and finfish farming. The Aquaculture Legislation Amendment Bill (No3) has been considered by the Select Committee and was reported back to Parliament on 9 May 2011.

From a non-commercial perspective the Bill does not address the concerns raised during the review process. The controversial change to enable finfish farming has been retained. There are fears that this process will lead to the privatisation of large tracts of coastal land as the existing Aquaculture Management Areas (AMAs) are to be abolished. AMAs limit where farms can be introduced. Instead, the coastline will be open to aquaculture development except in specially nominated areas.

George Riley, Interim CEO of Te Runanga a Iwi o Ngapuhi (TRAION), gave a different perspective, that Maori have a major commercial interest in developing aquaculture. TRAION is a designated Iwi Aquaculture Organisation looking to develop their interests because there are financial, employment and social benefits for Maori, especially in isolated northern communities.

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<sup>3</sup> Legislation enabling the 11-member Game Animal Council is still to be passed. It is expected to receive \$100,000 of Crown funding in the first year and \$50,000 in the following years. In March 2011 Department of Conservation officials recommended that the Council be established as a Ministerial advisory committee to be self-funded from a levy on hunting permits.

<sup>4</sup> <http://www.option4.co.nz/kahawai/supremecourt.htm#decn>

Under the Settlement Act<sup>5</sup> Maori have a choice to accept monetary compensation for their 20 percent allocation, or marine space for aquaculture development. Some iwi have opted for a cash settlement others have yet to decide. It is not clear if the 20% allocation will be small pockets of space, which will be difficult to manage, or consolidated blocks in a specific area.

At this stage, Ngapuhi are considering marine space as their default, rather than foregoing the potential benefits of future development. However, this default has yet to be formally ratified.

In any new aquaculture development Maori will be seeking to develop new technologies, new high value species and markets for value-added products.

Also, any aquaculture settlement in the north is likely to be a regional agreement amongst northern iwi so this opens the way for a regional management plan to be developed between these parties and others.

### **Tuna fishing in the Pacific**

Karli Thomas, Greenpeace's Oceans campaigner, explained their group has been monitoring fishing activity in the Western and Central Pacific waters for many years. Since 2001 Greenpeace has been working with Pacific nations to address their concerns about overfishing because these countries have few on-land resources so their economic opportunities are linked to the availability of fish. Fish are both a food source for locals and a revenue source from licenses. Fishing in the Pacific affects what fish arrive in the waters around Aotearoa, and there are noticeably less yellowfin now than there was years ago.

Major threats include legal and illegal fishing operations. Trans-shipments of catch is a big problem because fish caught are illegally unloaded onto another vessel that leaves the area without any catch being recorded or deducted from allowable quotas.

Also, there are huge Spanish super-seiners moving into the Pacific to chase the depleting numbers of tuna. Bluefin, Big eye, albacore, yellowfin and skipjack tuna are all being targeted. The US fleet has doubled since 2008.

Greenpeace is vigorously lobbying against the use of Fish Aggregating Devices (FADs) in purse seine operations. FADs attract numerous juvenile tuna and other species such as sharks and turtles, which all get caught in the purse seine nets.

Greenpeace advocates FAD-free purse seining for tuna or Pole and Line fishing, a fishing method that provides employment opportunities for local Pacific people and is successfully used in the Maldives.

Sealord do not fish for tuna. Greenpeace are encouraging Sealord to only use FAD-free or Pole and Line caught tuna in their canning operations. In the United Kingdom all but one tuna canner are now insisting on sustainably caught tuna.

Greenpeace has its own vessel blacklist because it is very difficult to get all countries to agree to add a specific vessel to the official list. Greenpeace encourages wholesalers and retailers not to trade with these vessels. The vessels are blacklisted for two years and their companies lose market opportunities so most work hard to be removed from the Greenpeace list.

Currently Greenpeace are lobbying the five main New Zealand tuna brands to use FAD-free purse seine caught fish. Most canned tuna in New Zealand is from the Pacific. Greenpeace are seeking public support and later in the year they will be asking the government to support a ban on the use of FADs in the purse seine fishery.

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<sup>5</sup> Maori Commercial Aquaculture Claims Act 2004.



## Deep sea oil drilling

Mike Smith of Greenpeace has been working with Ngati Porou and Whanau a Apanui in opposing the Petrobras deep-sea oil and gas exploration mission in the Raukumara Basin off the East Coast. This was an active tectonic area susceptible to regular seismic activity. Communities around the Coast strongly objected to the lack of consultation and the inability of regional and national agencies to react if the deep-sea operation failed and threatened the environment. There are no known compensation arrangements even though Petrobras is a Brazilian company with a history of failed operations.

Mike warned northern Maori not to get complacent about deep-sea oil and gas exploration just because it was not currently occurring off Te Tai Tokerau coast. Offshore waters around the coast have been divided into blocks and were being tendered out to overseas interests seeking to extract various minerals, gas and oil from New Zealand's territory.

Greenpeace was encouraging individuals and groups to:

- Establish a position on the issue of no deep-sea drilling;
- Publicise that position;
- Support local action in your region.

Ngapuhi confirmed their opposition to deep-sea drilling, as had Ngai Tahu earlier in the day.

Later in the hui Jonathan Dick agreed to draft an initial statement outlining the Hokianga Accord's support for Ngati Porou, Te Whanau a Apanui and Greenpeace in their opposition to deep-sea oil drilling in the Raukumara Basin. Trish will distribute and coordinate feedback. The statement of support will be given to Greenpeace on completion. Te Uri o Hau were meeting at the end of the month and would discuss developing a similar statement.

## Kahawai management

John Holdsworth is a marine scientist from Tutukaka who has attended hundreds of MFish Working Group meetings providing input and participating in discussions to ensure the public's fishing interests are maintained. John is an integral part of the NZ Sport Fishing Council's fisheries management team and contributed several affidavits during the Kahawai Legal Challenge proceedings.

In 2006 the Court directed the Minister of Fisheries to review his earlier management decisions for kahawai. Due to ongoing litigation this review only occurred in 2010. In a joint submission with the NZ Sport Fishing Council and option4, the Hokianga Accord submitted that commercial catch levels in Area 1 ought to be reduced to bycatch levels only. This was to assist depleted kahawai numbers to rebuild between East Cape and North Cape.

In late September the Minister announced that there would be no changes in most management areas from 1 October<sup>6</sup>. In Kahawai 1 he decided to retain commercial catch limits and reduce the overall allowances for customary and recreational interests. Ngapuhi and others reacted strongly to this decision and wrote several articles that appeared in the northern newspapers. At one stage Sonny described the decision as a national shame<sup>7</sup>.

However, a positive outcome of the Supreme Court decision is the clarification that the Minister may choose to manage a fishery to increase abundance so there is 'more fish in the water' for non-commercial fishers. The Minister reduced the overall allowances, but he did not reduce individual bag limits. His objective was to grow a healthier fishery. Unless there is a law change this precedent will stand and cannot be overruled. A new kahawai stock assessment and the estimates from the national recreational harvest survey are expected in 2013, there could be some management changes as a result of these processes.

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<sup>6</sup> <http://www.option4.co.nz/kahawai/kahawai2010.htm#decn10>

<sup>7</sup> [http://www.option4.co.nz/kahawai/documents/KAH\\_Media\\_Ngapuhi\\_Oct10.pdf](http://www.option4.co.nz/kahawai/documents/KAH_Media_Ngapuhi_Oct10.pdf)

## Soil science and environmental impacts

Max Purnell has been applying more sustainable practices on his Waitakaruru farm for more than a decade. This was partly due to the obvious degradation occurring in the rivers feeding into the Firth of Thames and the impacts that was having on the local fisheries, both fresh and saltwater.

There is a conflict occurring between conventional science, that encourages the use of soluble phosphates and nitrogen on soils, and microbiological science, which uses natural fungi, minerals and carbons from humus to 'grow' the soil and feed the plants at ground level.

Nutrients flow through the land in two ways, one by adding chemicals that attach to clay particles and the excess washes into the local waterways; or two, by carbons and humus. This humus exists in the first metre below ground level. This second concept appeals to Australian farmers struggling with drought because one litre of underground humus retains up to four litres of water.

Introducing exotic species to address threats carries unknown risks; it is more logical to enhance our biological systems to deal with such threats naturally. Possums and rabbits were introduced many years ago, for various reasons, and the consequences are still being dealt with today.

There is more living organisms in a tablespoon of healthy soil than people living on the planet. Max recommended that northern landowners contact Graham Shepherd and ask for a soil assessment. He has a simple way of testing soil and teaching others how to improve management and productivity<sup>8</sup>. Graham has worked with a number of iwi groups who are concerned about water quality.

While the scientists are still debating the merits of conventional and regenerative farming practices, this science is an expression of kaitiakitanga, guardianship of our natural taonga. The hui agreed it was important to teach our children how to better protect the land and waterways if we want to save our fisheries.

## Guardians of Hawke Bay fisheries

Jonathan Dick is chairman of Nga Tini Ika a Te Matau a Maui, the Guardians of Hawke Bay Fisheries. This is a multi-interest group including inshore commercial operators, Ngati Kahungunu, hapu, recreational, environmental advocates. Jonathan acknowledges the passion that all contributors have towards the local fisheries and often this results in vigorous, but healthy, debate amongst group members.

In order to make progress they agreed in 2009 to develop an Action Plan 2010. There have been varying levels of success and much of the same objectives have been carried through to the 2011 Plan. The advantage of having a plan that covers all interests is that it is transparent and measurable by all sectors.

After Ngai Tahu, Ngati Kahungunu has the largest coverage of customary regulations in Aotearoa. Jonathan highly recommends people read Ngati Kahungunu Ki Uta Ki Tai Fisheries Plan because it is a very good example of a strategic, 25 year plan.

The Guardians appreciated the support of Te Hiku o Te Ika, the far north fisheries forum, particularly Abe Witana and Vic Holloway, and the Hokianga Accord. The forums and the Guardians of the Sea Charitable Trust *Nga Kaitiaki mo Tangaroa* have provided practical support for the T90 square mesh trials being conducted in Hawke Bay by Rick Burch, a trawlerman on the Nancy Glen II. The ultimate objective is to reduce the capture and mortality of juvenile fish taken while commercial fishing.

## Regional recreational forums

John Holdsworth and Trish Rea are members of two of the Ministry of Fisheries' six regional recreational fisheries forums covering the country. John is in the FMA 1 forum, covering the upper North Island east coast, and Trish is in FMA 9, upper NI west coast. These forums have just been reorganised and membership

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<sup>8</sup> Simple test for a home garden <http://www.consumer.org.nz/reports/soil-quality/introduction>



has been reduced to around eight members each, all selected by MFish. The first quarterly meetings were held in April to discuss research priorities for this coming year. MFish will select which fish stocks will be reviewed before October 2011. Relevant fish stocks to be reviewed are west coast kingfish (KIN8), east and west coast gurnard (GUR1) and bluenose (BNS1)<sup>9</sup>. The July meetings will be discussing the Ministry's Fisheries Plans for finfish and shellfish.

### **Relationship with the Crown**

Tepania Kingi has previously described how the Treaty of Waitangi was an agreement between Maori and the Queen. The only way for the Hokianga Accord to forge a worthwhile relationship between Ngapuhi and Ngati Whatua and the Crown was to have Sonny and Naida, as chair of their Iwi, dealing with their Crown counterpart - the Minister of Fisheries. Similarly, the Chief Executives of the Iwi and MFish would collaborate. But this engagement model required goodwill, which from the Accord's perspective was currently lacking from MFish. The Memorandum of Understanding drafted in 2005 could be resurrected if the Accord thought it was worthwhile.

### **Te Puna Mataitai**

There was deep concern about the lack of progress in implementing Te Puna Mataitai in the northern Bay of Islands. The hui agreed to draft and send a letter to the Minister of Fisheries requesting both an explanation as to why there has been no progress and an expected date of receiving his approval for the Mataitai. The letter was signed by George Riley, Accord co-chairman, and sent on 15 June 2011.

### **Next Accord hui**

It was agreed that there would be a minimum of one Hokianga Accord hui per annum. Working Group hui would be held in between the major hui, to deal with specific matters as they arose. It is likely the Working Group will need to get together when the Ministry Fisheries Plans are released in July.

### **LegaSea**

Scott Macindoe announced the development of TeamFishing, now [www.legasea.co.nz](http://www.legasea.co.nz). This is an initiative to raise funds from the public to support the voluntary fisheries management work being done by the NZ Sport Fishing Council, Hokianga Accord and other Guardian-type groups.

This voluntary model has been successful in the past, works well now, but is under-resourced. This project is in its embryonic stage, but aims to inspire at least 20,000 Kiwis to pay \$20 each to resource the advocacy that aims to achieve the common goal of "more fish in the water/kia maha atu nga ika ki roto i te wai".

### **Guardians of the Sea**

Donations to the Guardians of the Sea Charitable Trust *Nga Kaitiaki mo Tangaroa* are tax deductible. This is an important consideration for people who have substantial funds to contribute to promoting and protecting the public's access to healthy, abundant fisheries. Due to the generosity of donors the Trust has provided funds to support the Hokianga Accord, the Guardians of Hawke Bay Fisheries, Keep it K-Iwi, option4, the T90 square trawl mesh trials and other programmes. The Trust welcomes applications for funds to support projects, but its Trust Deed specifically excludes providing funding for advocacy activities.

### **Evaluation session**

All hui attendees were given the opportunity to express their view of the hui, what they had learnt and what could be improved upon. There was unanimous appreciation to the *hunga kainga* [home people] for their hospitality, to the *ringa wera* [cooks, kitchen hands] for the delicious offerings and to all the speakers who had contributed their knowledge to this hui. Their contributions had enriched everyone who had been to the hui over the two days.

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<sup>9</sup> 1 June 2011 MFish advised a list of 20 stocks to be reviewed.