

**IN THE ENVIRONMENT COURT  
AT CHRISTCHURCH**

**ENV-2025-CHC-134**

**I TE KŌTI TAIAO O AOTEAROA  
KI ŌTAUTAHI**

**WĀHANGA  
UNDER**

the Resource Management Act  
1991 (RMA)

**MŌ TE TAKE  
IN THE MATTER**

of an appeal under clause 14 of  
the First Schedule of the RMA

**KO  
BETWEEN**

**TE RŪNANGA O NGĀTI  
WAEWAE, TE RŪNANGA O  
MAKAAWHIO AND TE  
RŪNANGA O NGĀI TAHU**  
Appellant  
Kaitono pira

**ME  
AND**

**TE TAI O POUTINI PLAN  
COMMITTEE**  
Respondent  
Kaiurupare

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**Notice of the Māori Trustee's Wish to be a Party to Proceedings  
under Section 274 of the Resource Management Act 1991**

**Dated 15 January 2026**

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**Greg Shaw / Madeline Ash**

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**To:** The Registrar, Environment Court, Christchurch

**And to:** The Appellant, Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Waewae, Te Rūnanga o Makaawhio and Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu

**And to:** The Respondent, Te Tai o Poutini Plan Committee

**And to:** The Section 274 parties

1. The Māori Trustee wishes to be a party pursuant to section 274 of the Resource Management Act 1991 to the following proceedings:
  - a. *Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Waewae, Te Rūnanga o Makaawhio and Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu v Te Tai o Poutini Plan Committee (ENV-2025-CHC-134)* being an appeal against decisions of Te Tai o Poutini Plan Committee (**TTPP Committee**) on the proposed Te Tai o Poutini Plan (**TTPP Appeal**).
2. The Māori Trustee has an interest in these proceedings that is greater than the general public as she represents and administers approximately 1,865 hectares of Māori freehold land, for 12 trusts with over 4,648 Māori landowner interests across Te Tai o Poutini. The subject matter of the proceedings is likely to directly impact the Māori freehold land and its owners that the Māori Trustee represents within the region.
3. The Māori Trustee made a submission on the Proposed TTPP (submission number 440), dated 28 October 2022, regarding the subject matter of the proceedings.
4. The Māori Trustee is not a trade competitor for the purposes of section 308C or 308CA of the Resource Management Act 1991.
5. The Māori Trustee is interested in part of the proceedings, specifically the definitions of 'Papakāinga' and 'Māori Land' and any further or subsequent issues relating to Māori land or the development of Papakāinga.

6. The Māori Trustee's submission on the Proposed TTPP indicated general support for the plan overall however highlighted issues with how its implementation did not provide for Māori freehold landowners to effectively utilise and develop their lands, for the benefit of current and future generations.
7. Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Waewae, Te Rūnanga o Makaawhio (**Poutini Ngāi Tahu**) and Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu (**TRoNT**) further submitted on aspects of the Māori Trustee's submission<sup>1</sup>.
8. Throughout the submission and hearing period, the Māori Trustee worked with Poutini Ngāi Tahu and TRoNT on several occasions to resolve submission points to enable the use and development of Māori land within Te Tai o Poutini.
9. Through this work, Poutini Ngāi Tahu, TRoNT and the Māori Trustee established a joint position on the definitions of 'Papakāinga' and 'Māori Land', which was provided to the Panel in a Joint Statement dated 10 November 2023 (**Joint Statement**). This clarified what Papakāinga is, what type of land it could occur on, who could utilise Papakāinga provisions and was supported by all three parties.
10. However, as set out in points 5 and 6 of the Appeal, the definitions for 'Papakāinga' and 'Māori Land' provided by Poutini Ngāi Tahu, TRoNT and the Māori Trustee in the Joint Statement were not reflected in the Decisions Version of the TTPP.
11. The Māori Trustee supports the relief sought by the Appellants to the extent that it relates to the issues set out in paragraph 10 above. The Māori Trustee seeks that the definition of papakāinga be as set out in the Joint Statement:

*Papakāinga means a development on Māori land which provides residential accommodation, including communal buildings and facilities, for the benefit of members of Poutini Ngāi Tahu and others who whakapapa to Poutini Ngāi Tahu.*

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<sup>1</sup> [Further Submission 41 – Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Waewae, Te Rūnanga o Makaawhio and Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu.](#)

12. The Māori Trustee also seeks that the definition of Māori Land be as set out in the Joint Statement:

*Māori Land means:*

- a. *Land owned by Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu, Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Waewae, Te Rūnanga o Makaawhio or one of their holding companies;*
- b. *Land gazetted or determined by order of the Māori Land Court as Māori reservation under s338 Te Ture Whenua Māori Act 1993;*
- c. *Māori customary and Māori freehold land as defined in s4 and s129 of Te Ture Whenua Māori Act 1993;*
- d. *Any land where:*
  - i. *A status declaration under the Māori Affairs Amendment Act 1967 was made converting Māori freehold land to general title, and where there have been no changes of ownership since the conversion other than to an owner's bloodline successor(s); or*
  - ii. *One or more owners are able to provide written evidence of Whakapapa to Poutini Ngāi Tahu as confirmed by the Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu Whakapapa Unit or the Māori Land Court; or*
  - iii. *The land is vested in a Trust constituted pursuant to Part 12 of Te Ture Whenua Māori Act 1993 or a Māori incorporation constituted pursuant to Part 13 of the Te Ture Whenua Māori Act 1993.*

13. The Māori Trustee agrees to participate in mediation or other alternative dispute resolution of the proceedings.



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Counsel for the Māori Trustee

15/01/2026  
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Date

The document is filed by Madeline Ash, solicitor for the Māori Trustee.  
Level 3, Seabridge House,  
110 Featherston Street,  
Wellington, 6011.

Documents for service on the Māori Trustee may be:

- Left at the above address for service, or
- Posted to Te Tumu Paeroa, PO Box 5038, Wellington 6140

Please direct enquiries to:

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*Advice*

If you have any questions about this notice, contact the Environment Court in Auckland, Wellington, or Christchurch.