



WHANGANUI RIVER MAORI TRUST BOARD

**Presentation to the Board of Enquiry:
National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management**



WHANGANUI RIVER MAORI TRUST BOARD

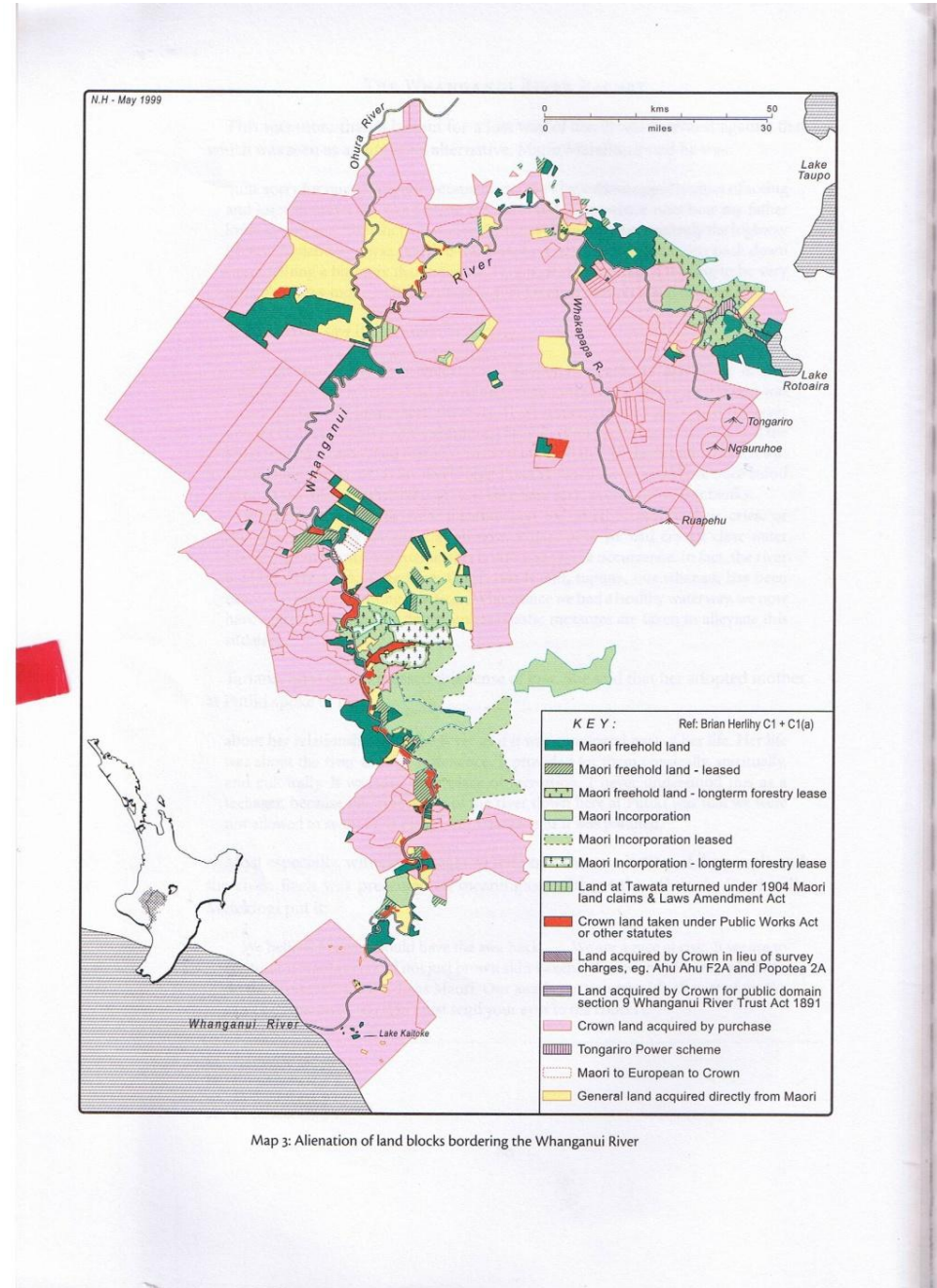
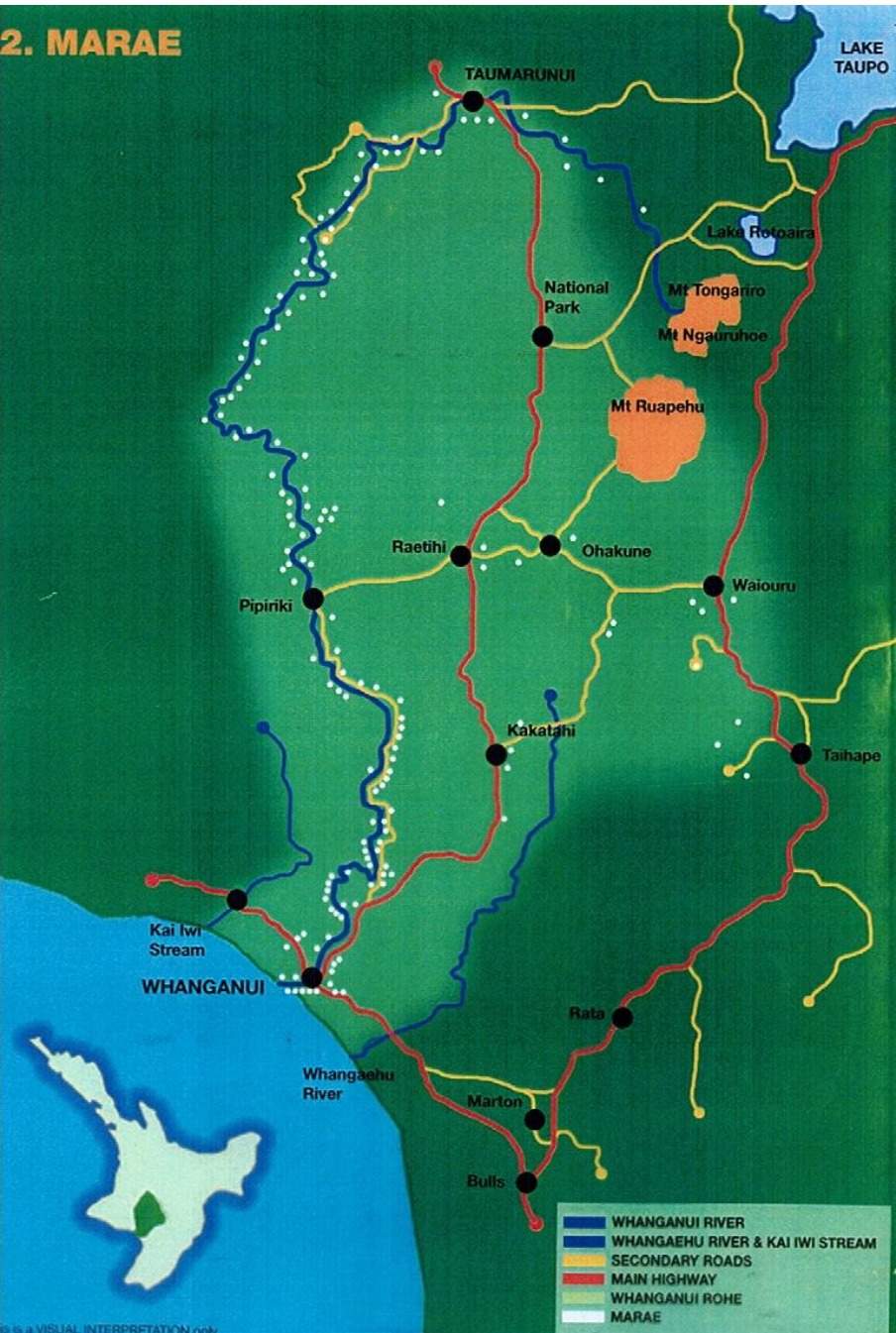
**Whanganui River Trust Board Act 1988 No 230 (as at 03 September 2007),
Public Act**

Board functions

In addition to the functions conferred on the Board by section 24 of the Maori Trust Boards Act 1955, the Board shall from time to time negotiate with the Government, or any other body or authority concerned, for the settlement of all outstanding claims relating to the customary rights and usages of te iwi o Whanganui, or any particular hapu, whanau, or group, in respect of the Whanganui River, including the bed of the river, its minerals, its water, and its fish.

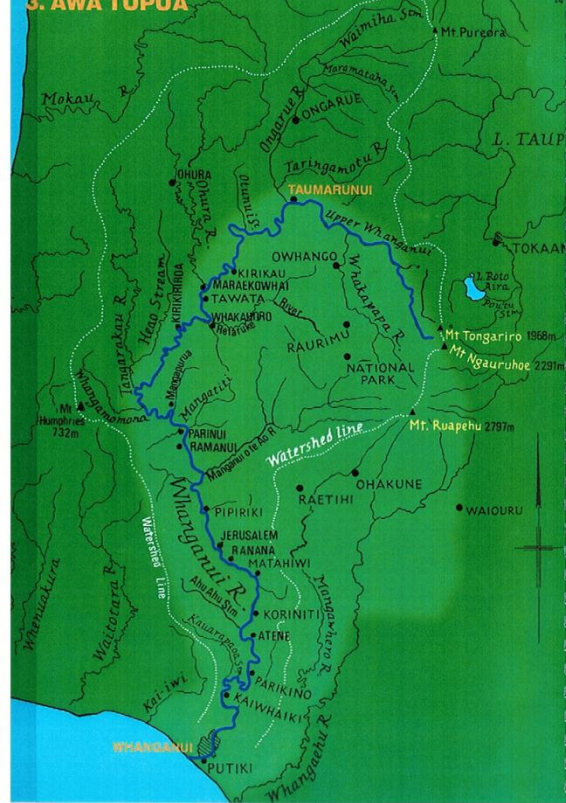
WHANGANUI IWI LANDSCAPE

2. MARAE



WHANGANUI RIVER HISTORY

- 1849 Legislative recognition of Whanganui Iwi right to Eel Fishing
- 1877 Whanganui Iwi lodged its first objection to Harbour Board regulations
- 1886 501 Whanganui Iwi members petitioned the Government regarding the destruction of eel weirs
- 1895 - 1948 Our Tipuna worked through a number of petitions, court proceedings and appeals in respect of rights on the Whanganui River
- 1988 Whanganui River Maori Trust Board was established
- 1994 Whanganui River Claim presented to the Waitangi Tribunal by Iwi
- 2003 Terms of Negotiation signed with Labour Government
- 2009 National Government agree to recommence negotiations
- 2000 – 2009 Whanganui Iwi continue to litigate the provision of a 35 year Resource Consents by Horizons Regional Council to Genesis Energy



SUMMARY

1. The Trust Boards supports the need to manage New Zealands Freshwater better
2. The Trust Board reinforces the input of the Maori Reference Group in the development of the NPS
3. The Trust Board seeks greater connectedness in Freshwater management that includes:
 - understanding the nature and extent Freshwater resources
 - improving the impacts of land use on our Freshwater
 - greater anaylsis of appropriate water uses

Finally the Trust Board confirms the right of Tangata Whenua to be engaged in all levels of decision making in regards to their Freshwater Resources. In our case Whanganui Iwi has maintained uninterrupted occupancy of its lands and waters prior to, and since the Treaty of Waitangi in 1840. The National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management needs to provide for distinctive relationships such as ours and ensure that we are decision/policy makers and not submitters to a process where others make decisions. In this case decisions that involve one of our most significant Taonga, freshwater and the Whanganui River Catchment.