



He Mihi: *Kia whaikororia ki te Atua I runga rawa, he maungarongo ki runga I te mata o te whenua, whakaaro pai ki nga tangata katoa. Piki te kaha te ora me te maramatanga ki runga I to tatou Kingi Tuhetia otira te whare kahui ariki katoa. Paimarire Nga tangi nga moteatea hoki ki a ratou ma kua haere kei tua o te arai. Na reira e nga mate e hinga mai nei e hinga mai na, nga mate o nga tau o nga marama o nga rangi tata nei, haere, haere, okioki ra. Hoki mai ki a tatou nga kanohi ora. Na reira e kui ma e koro ma me nga tini whanaunga tena koutou tena koutou tena tatou katoa. Nga mihi nui hoki a te tau hou 2010 ki a koutou.*

Maraeroa A & B Blocks Claim Update

The Negotiations Team comprising Brian Stanley, Phillip Crown and Glen Katu continued to meet with Office of Treaty Settlements Negotiators through to December 2009 and are close to securing a settlement offer from the Crown. Several consultation hui were also held in the last three months and were held at Te Kuiti Marae, Te Kuiti, Te Ihingarangi marae, Waimiha, Waihi marae, Lake Taupo, Te Wananga o Aotearoa Campus, Tokoroa and Te Tikanga marae, Fielding. The purpose of the consultation hui were to inform as many potential beneficiaries as possible about the Maraeroa A & B Blocks Claim, accept registrations and to introduce the Te Maru o Rereahu Trust Negotiating Team.

What is the Maraeroa A & B Blocks Claim?

The original Maraeroa Block comprised some 47,000 acres. The Block was partitioned by the Crown in 1891 into Maraeroa A, B & C Blocks. Maraeroa A & B Blocks were taken by the Crown for Surveys Liens among other things and now consists mainly of Department of Conservation Lands, Crown Forest Lands and Private Land. Maraeroa C comprising 13,000 acres was left with the owners and is now managed by Maraeroa C Incorporation. Rereahu rangatira petitioned the Crown several times from 1891 to protest the partitioning as well as the errors made by the surveyors during surveying. There are some significant cultural sites in the Maraeroa A & B Blocks and include Rereahu's village site known as "Nga Herenga" and the Te Arero Pa site.

Who will benefit from the proposed Settlement ?

Descendants of the original owners noted on the Maori Land Court records will benefit from the Maraeroa A & B Blocks Settlement. Simply request an owners list from the Maraeroa C offices at the address below. If one of your tupuna are on the list then you are eligible to register as a beneficiary of the new settlement entity to be established. The original owners list includes those of Rereahu, Maniapoto, Raukawa and Tuwharetoa descent..

Next Steps!

Once the Negotiations Team has secured a settlement offer from the Crown and the Te Maru o Rereahu Trust Trustees agree to the offer being tabled for consideration by registered Maraeroa A & B Block beneficiaries a further series of hui will be held. These hui are termed "Ratification Hui". The ratification hui will be advertised 3 weeks in advance of their being held and will be held at the same venues that the consultation hui were held. Voting will also be conducted at the hui on two matters. The first vote will be taken to ratify the "Te Maru o Rereahu Trust Deed of Mandate" which confirms Te Maru o Rereahu Trust as the mandated organization to negotiate the settlement of the Maraeroa A & B Blocks claim with the Crown. The second vote will be whether to accept the Crown's Offer of Settlement. Copies of the documents will be forwarded to Registered Maraeroa A & B Block beneficiaries before the ratification hui are held.