



MOUNTAINS TO SEA  
CONSERVATION TRUST

KAIPARA WĀNANGA  
PROGRAMME | 2026  
'Connection'



**WAI**  
CONNECTION  
TATAI KI TE WAI



*Ministry for the*  
**Environment**  
*Manatū Mō Te Taiao*

**TE KIA ORA  
MARAE**

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## Introduction

We are excited to announce our 2026 annual Mountains to Sea wānanga, delivered in partnership with Te Kia Ora Marae. Te Kia Ora Marae is located in Kaipara and is home to the hapū Ngāti Rango, of the iwi Ngāti Whātua. The wānanga will be hosted from the 8-12th of April.

The theme for our 2026 wānanga is “Connection”, reflecting the kaupapa of the Wai Connection Project and our relationships with people, place, and te taiao. The aim of this event is to showcase and celebrate what is happening locally and nationally, while fostering meaningful connections.

Registrations are essential. The link to register for the wānanga can be found [here](#).

Your registration will include all meals, accommodation during the event, local field trips, a social evening and a facilitated workshop.

Thanks to the Ministry of Environment for funding this event through our Wai Connection project. Additional funding support has been provided by Foundation North.

This is an evolving document and we will share new versions of the programme as our planning progresses.

Please feel free to contact Patricia on [patricia@mountainstosea.org.nz](mailto:patricia@mountainstosea.org.nz) if you have any questions.

Ngā mihi nui



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# Timeline

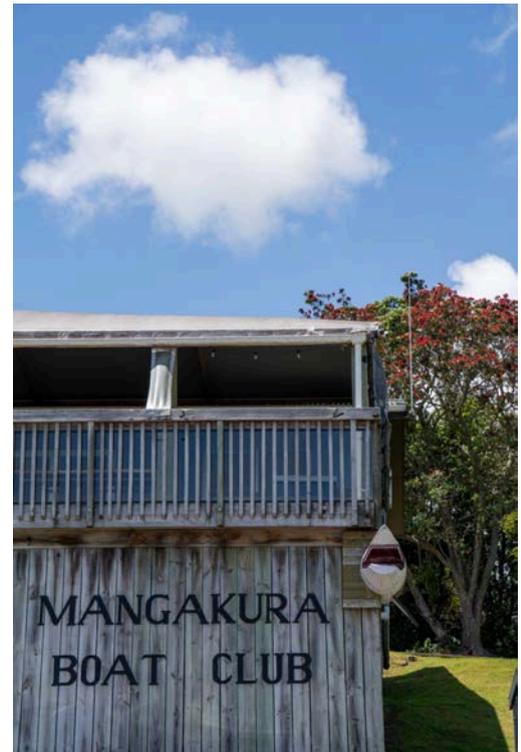
## Day 1 - Wednesday | Connection to Tangata - Community Open Day

Time	Activity	Location	Audience
0930-1000	Arrive at Te Kia Ora Marae	Te Kia Ora Marae	Community Wānanga Attendees MTS Crew Hau kāinga
1000-1100	Pōwhiri - Guided		
1100-1130	<i>Karakia - Kaputī - Morning Tea</i>		
1130-1215	Haukāinga Introduction		
1215-1230	Introduction from Patricia & Lorna - Plan for the day, Health & Safety & Housekeeping		
1230-1300	Whakawhanaungatanga		
1300-1400	<i>Karakia   Lunch   Whakanoa</i>		
1400-1430	Mountains to Sea Programme Introduction		
1430-1600	Rotational Activities at the Marae - stream testing (macroinvertebrates & water quality), tohu booklet, īnanga spawning activity		
1600-1630	<i>Karakia   Kapu tī- Afternoon Tea</i>		
1630-1730	Local Showcase Presentations - Teā (Puatahi Tamariki Wānanga), Laikynn (Ōtakanini Haranui Rangatahi engagement), Angela (The Forest Bridge Trust KMR Technical Workshops), Karyn & Sue (Arapārera Community Catchment Group)		
1730-1800	Closing of Open Day		
1800-1900	<i>Karakia   Dinner</i>		
1900-2000	Poster Presentation Evening		
2000-2100	Set up Mattresses   Optional Spotlighting		



## Day 2 – Thursday | Connection to te taiao – Field Trips and Social Evening

Time	Activity	Location	Audience
0730-0830	<i>Karakia   Breakfast   Prep &amp; pack lunch, gear and social evening attire for the day</i>	Te Kia Ora Marae	Wānanga Attendees MTS Crew Hau kāinga
0830-1000	Keynote Presentations - Mel Nahi (Looking Back to Inform te Awa Hōteoro Futures) & Kim Jones (Whakapapa of a Movement: The National Īnanga Spawning Programme)		
1000-1015	Travel to Omeru Reserve	Omeru Reserve	
1015-1200	Omeru Reserve Guided Hīkoi & Activity		
1200-1230	Lunch at Omeru Reserve		
1230-1300	Travel to Field Trip Locations	Mangakura Boat Club or TBC	
1300-1630	Local Field Trips - Hōteoro Kayak or Arapārerā Community Catchment Group Showcase		
1630-1800	Travel Back to Marae & Prepare for Social Evening	Mangakura Boat Club	
1800-2100	Social Evening at Mangakura Boat Club		
2100-2115	Travel back to Te Kia Ora Marae	Te Kia Ora Marae	



## Day 3 – Friday | Building and Maintaining Connections - Workshops and Activities

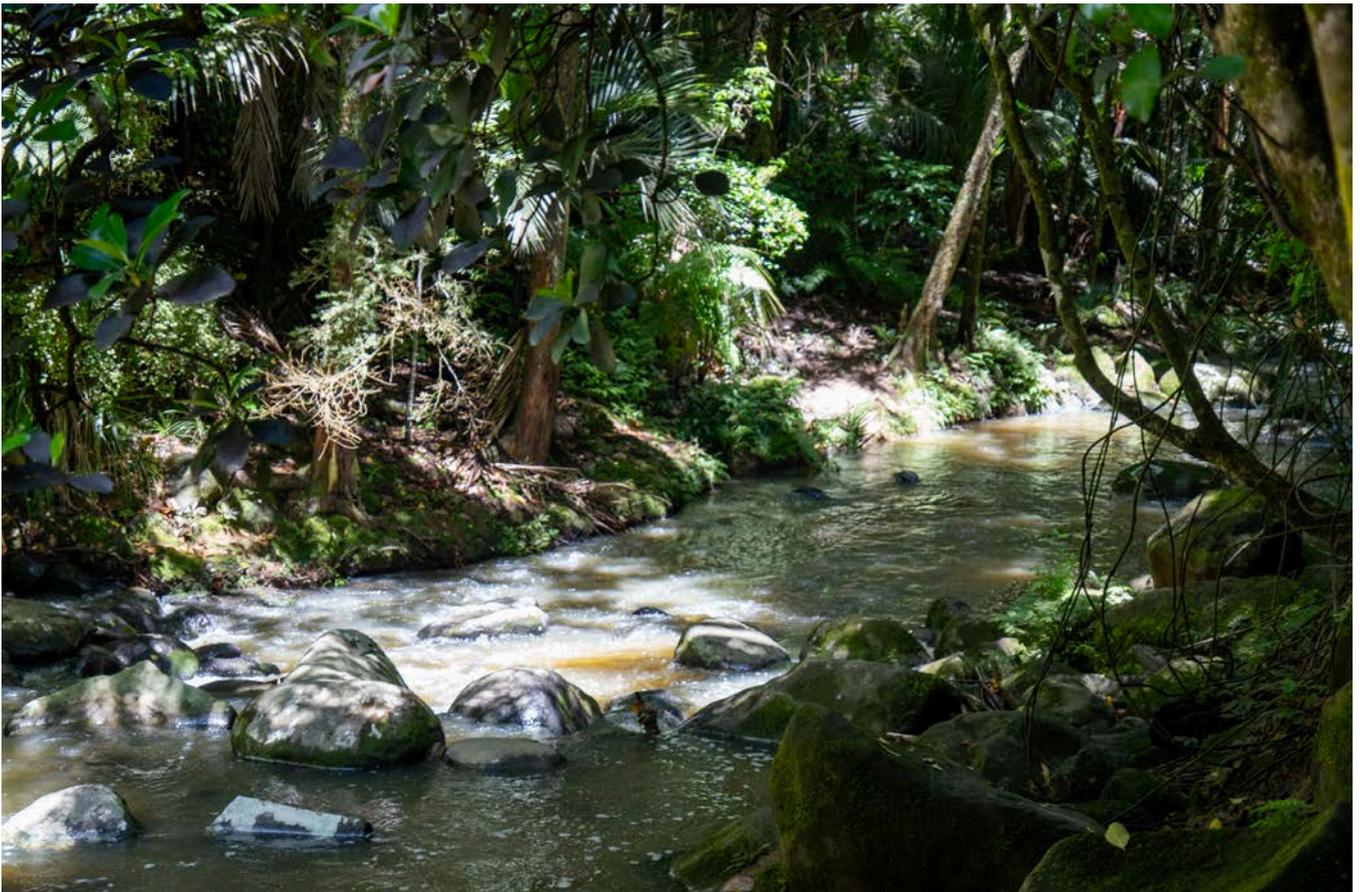
Time	Activity	Location	Audience
0800-0900	<i>Karakia   Breakfast</i>	Te Kia Ora Marae	Wānanga Attendees MTS Crew Hau kāinga
0900-1000	Keynote Presentations (TBC)		
1000-1015	Kaputī		
1015-1215	Facilitated Workshop		
1215-1300	<i>Lunch</i>		
1300-1430	Facilitated Workshop cont.		
1430-1440	Thank you from Mountains to Sea Conservation Trust		
1440-1530	Wānanga Whakamutunga   Closing from Haukāinga		
1500-1510	Thank you from Mountains to Sea Conservation Trust		
1510-1530	Whakamutunga   Closing from Haukāinga		



## Day 3 - Saturday cont. | Start of Mountains to Sea Crew Training

Friday afternoon marks the official end of the Te Kia Ora based wānanga and the start of our Mountains to Sea Crew Community Based Freshwater Monitoring (CBFM) workshop and coordinator endorsement days.

Time	Activity	Location	Audience
1530-1600	Pōwhiri for Training Day Attendees   Kaputī	Te Kia Ora Marae	MTS Crew Hau kāinga
1530-1600	Clean up for Those Staying   Free Time		
1600-1800	CBFM Training - Part 1 (2hrs)		
	Facilitated Train the Trainer Education Workshop - Recorded		
1800-1900	Dinner for Those Staying		
1900-2000	Free Time   CBFM Training - Part 2 (1hr)		



## Day 4 - Saturday | Marine Monitoring Showcase & Crew Training

There is the option for members of the community and full wānanga attendees to join us on Saturday for snorkels at Te Kohuroa - Matheson Bay and the Whangateau Harbour in the afternoon. Wānanga and open day attendees will be provided with a link to register for the snorkel activities.

Time	Activity	Location	Audience
0730-0830	<i>Karakia   Breakfast</i>		MTS Crew Hau kāinga
0830-0930	Travel to Te Kohuroa - Matheson Bay	Te Kia Ora Marae	Optional Wānanga Attendees
0930-1000	Welcome to Te Kohuroa - Introduction from Te Kohuroa Rewilding Initiative		Community optional for snorkelling
1000-1130	Marine Monitoring Showcase via Snorkel	Te Kohuroa   Matheson Bay	Wānanga Attendees
	CBFM Training - Part 3 (1.5hrs)		MTS Crew
1130-1230	<i>Karakia   Packed Lunch</i>		Hau kāinga
1230-1700	CBFM Training - Part 4 (4.5hrs)	Leigh Hall	
	Whangateau Catchment Collective Showcase - Including snorkelling the sandstone reef and a kōrero	Whangateau Harbour	MTS Crew Optional Hau kāinga
1700-1800	Travel Back to Marae	Te Kia Ora Marae	
1800-1900	<i>Karakia   Dinner</i>		



## Day 5 – Sunday | Crew Training Continued

Time	Activity	Location	Audience
0730-0830	Karakia   Breakfast   Pack Away Mattresses and Start Clean	Te Kia Ora Marae	MTS Crew Optional Hau kāinga
0830-1130	CBFM Training - Part 5 (3 hrs)		
	Games Workshop - Recorded		
1130-1230	Karakia   Lunch of Leftovers		
1230-1330	Final Clean up		





## Tikanga – Protocols

### Koha

Please bring some cash to add to the koha for the marae.

### What to Wear for the Pōwhiri

- Tāne please wear long pants
- Wāhine please wear a skirt below the knees if possible or long pants (black preferable)

### Waiata to Practice

[Purea nei](#) - pōwhiri

[Mountains to Sea Waiata](#)

[Tūtira Mai Ngā Iwi](#) - to thank the ringawera

### Wharenui

- Do not wear shoes inside
- Do not bring in food and drink (water in a drink bottle is ok)
- Do not bring in any kitchen utensils
- Do not sit on pillows
- Do not hang clothes & towels up in the whare

### Wharekai

- Don't sit on tables
- Don't put hats on tables
- Karakia will be done before kai (we promote everyone to take the opportunity to lead this - can be in other languages other than te reo)
- Help out in the kitchen and with clean up where possible

### Wharepaku – Toilets

- Only use mops assigned for wharepaku cleaning
- Clean up after yourself
- Help out with cleaning where possible

## Getting There

If you are travelling outside of the region please arrive by Tuesday to ensure you are at the pōwhiri on time on Wednesday morning. If you do not make it to pōwhiri on Wednesday morning you will not be able to attend any marae based activities for the wānanga. We will have a second pōwhiri on Friday afternoon for those just attending the training.

## Driving

We will be in contact if you have indicated that you have space and ability to carpool if required.

## Locations

- 📍 Te kia Ora Marae
- 📍 Mangakura Boat Club
- 📍 Omeru Reserve
- 📍 Te Kohuroa / Mathesons Bay
- 📍 Whangateau Reserve
- 📍 Leigh Community Hall

## Parking

There is car parking available on the marae grounds - car pooling is advised for the field trips.

## What to Bring

- Cash to add to koha for marae
- Sleeping bag/duvet, pillow
- Towel
- Torch or head torch (if spotlighting)
- Gumboots or shoes you don't mind getting wet
- Plenty of warm clothes
- Rain jacket
- Swimwear (if snorkelling or if you wish to swim)
- Drink bottle
- Keep cup and lunch box
- Glad rags for Thursday night
- Snacks (if you think you will require extra kai outside of standard meals) - please ensure to not bring into wharenuī)

## Refunds and Cancellation Policy

If you have a paid registration - for a full refund we need 2 weeks notice. Any other refunds will be on a case by case basis and may incur an administration fee.

If you have a sponsored spot and can no longer attend - please give us as much notice as possible so that we are able to offer the spot to someone else. We reserve the right to charge a non attendance fee.



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