

**NGĀTI AWA PROTOCOL FOR DEALING WITH KOIWI OR TAONGA
UNEARTHED DURING THE KOPEOPEO CANAL CONTAMINATION REMEDIATION PROJECT**

1. Background

- 1.1 The Bay of Plenty Regional Council is proposing to remove contaminated sediment from the Kopeopeo Canal and transport the material to identified containment sites for bioremediation.
- 1.2 For the purposes of dealing with environmental and cultural matters in respect of the proposed Kopeopeo Canal Contamination Remediation Project, Te Runanga o Ngati Awa has been consulted.
- 1.3 As part of the consultation, the Bay of Plenty Regional Council and Te Runanga o Ngati Awa have agreed that, in the event that *koiwi* or other *taonga* are unearthed during the course of proposed operations, the parties should adopt a protocol for dealing with this matter.
- 1.4 Accordingly, this protocol records those procedures that have been agreed between the Bay of Plenty Regional Council and Te Runanga o Ngati Awa.

2. Definition

In this protocol the following terms have the meanings set out herein:

- 2.1 "*Koiwi*" means human remains such as skeletal material.
- 2.2 "*Taonga*" means cultural artefacts such as implements, weapons or decorations traditionally and historically utilised by tangata whenua and includes parts or the remains thereof. Archaeological features such as rua (caves) and pits are also taonga. People can gain a greater understanding of the way that pre-European Maori lived.
- 2.3 "*Site*" means the relevant location within the subdivision land.

Signed for the Bay of Plenty Regional Council

Signed for Te Runanga o Ngati Awa

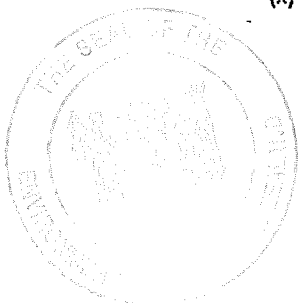
Dated this day of 20



3. **Unearthing of Koīwi or other Taonga**

The following procedures will be adopted in the event that koīwi or taonga are unearthed or are reasonably suspected to have been unearthed during the proposed removal of contaminated sediment from the Kopeopeo Canal and transportation of that material to identified containment sites for bioremediation.

- (i) Immediately it becomes apparent or is suspected by workers at the site that koīwi or taonga have been uncovered, all activity in the immediate area will cease.
- (ii) The plant operator will shut down all machinery or activity in the area immediately, leave the area and advise the on-site supervisor of the occurrence.
- (iii) The on-site Supervisor shall take steps immediately to secure the area in a way that ensures that koīwi or taonga remain untouched as far as possible in the circumstances and shall notify the site Manager.
- (iv) The Site Manager will immediately notify Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Awa (07 307 0760) Louvain Street, PO Box 76, Whakatane, that it is suspected that koīwi or taonga have been uncovered at the site.
- (v) Te Runanga o Ngati Awa where necessary, will contact the appropriate kaumatua to act on their behalf in this matter in order to guide and advise the Bay of Plenty Regional Council and/or their contractors as to the appropriate course of action and will immediately advise the site Manager of the identity of such persons and such other details as may be appropriate in the circumstances.
- (vi) The site Manager will notify the New Zealand Police and NZ Historic Places Trust that it is suspected that koīwi and taonga have been uncovered at the site.
- (vii) Ngati Awa Pukenga (cultural experts) and kaumatua (elderly person) are vested with discretion to request the attendance of a fully qualified and experienced archaeologist in the event that the Historic Places Trust is unable to send an officer to the site.
- (viii) The site Manager will ensure that all site staff are available to meet and guide kaumatua, Police, or Historic Places Trust staff to the site, assisting with any requests that they may make.
- (ix) If the kaumatua are satisfied that the koīwi or taonga are of significance to them, the kaumatua will decide how they are to be dealt with and will communicate such decision to the land owner, NZ Police and such other parties as are considered appropriate. Note that the Ngati Awa Research & Archives Centre at Louvain House, Louvain Street, Whakatane is a registered collector of artefacts. An alternative destination for artefacts is the Whakatane Museum.
- (x) Activity in the relevant area will remain halted until kaumatua, the Police, and Historic Places Trust (as the case may be) have given approval for operations in that area to recommence. IN the event that rua (caves) pits or other archaeological features are



discovered, photographs of these are to be taken and labeled by the archaeologist and copies sent to the respective iwi authorities, and the Historic Places Trust, NZ Archaeological Association filekeeper and the Heritage Co-ordinator at Environment Bay of Plenty.

- (xi) The Bay of Plenty Regional Council and/or their contractors shall ensure that kaumatua are given the opportunity to undertake karakia (prayer) and such other religious or cultural ceremonies and activities at the site as may be considered appropriate in accordance with tikanga Maori (Maori custom and protocol).

