



TŪWHARETOA
MĀORI TRUST BOARD

Cultural Protocols for Lake Taupō

Kawa Tikanga o Taupō Moana

Protocols

Introduction and Scope

This protocol applies to all persons that have a current Licence Agreement with the Trust Board, being:

- a) Tourism operators;
- b) Event operators; and
- c) Film and production operators.

Collectively referred to as ‘Commercial Operators’ for the purposes of this protocol.

This protocol provides Commercial Operators on Taupō Waters clarity on the cultural protocols relevant to their operations.

All Commercial Operators (which includes any employees and/or contractors) are to comply with the terms and conditions set out in this protocol and are to ensure that customers and/or clients comply with and are made aware of the relevant parts of this protocol.

For the avoidance of doubt, Commercial Operators are also required to comply with other protocols including the Taiao Protocol and Event, Filming and Photography Protocol.

The cultural significance of Taupō Waters to Nga Hapū o Tūwharetoa

Nga Hapū o Tūwharetoa are the descendants of Tūwharetoa and Tia and other tūpuna who have occupied the Taupō Region continuously since the arrival of the Te Arawa waka. Ngāti Tūwharetoa are linked by whakapapa to their lands, freshwater and taonga. This connection establishes their mana whenua, kaitiakitanga and

rangatiratanga, including their right to establish and maintain a meaningful and sustainable relationship between hapū, whānau and their taonga.

Taupō Waters, inclusive of Taupō nui-a-Tia and all the streams and tributaries that feed into, and flow out of, Lake Taupō, is a taonga tuku iho and of paramount importance to Ngāti Tūwharetoa. The people of Ngāti Tūwharetoa enjoy a special relationship with Taupō Waters and have an inherent obligation to ensure that the mauri, and the physical and spiritual health of their environment, inclusive of Taupō Waters and the Waikato River, is maintained, protected and enhanced.

Ngāti Tūwharetoa value land, water and other natural resources for their innate ability to provide for the physical and economic needs of marae and hapū both now and for the future. As such, Ngāti Tūwharetoa asserts its right as kaitiaki in the following manner:

- Carrying out their responsibilities as kaitiaki over all taonga.
- Ensuring that the particular hapū associated with Taupō Moana retain their relationship with their taonga.
- Protecting the taonga tuku iho for present and future generations whilst being mindful of the need for enabling sustainable development.
- Respecting, sustaining, restoring and protecting the mauri of taonga along with wāhi tapu and other sites of significance.
- Recognising the fundamental connection of hapū and iwi with Taupō Moana which comes from mythology, tradition and whakapapa.
- Ensuring that the natural environment is not altered without the appropriate ritual and sustaining the ecological integrity and diversity of the land, the water and all taonga.

For Ngāti Tūwharetoa, the health and wellbeing of Taupō Waters is inseparable from the health and wellbeing of the people.

Rāhui / Temporary Prohibition

The Trust Board may impose a Rāhui (temporary prohibition) over any part of Taupō Waters for cultural safety purposes.

A rāhui is the tikanga (customary practice) that prohibits access to an area (either on water or land) or resources.

Details in respect of the procedure for imposing any rāhui are included in the License Agreement, which Commercial Operators must comply with.

Cultural Knowledge

If using Tūwharetoa cultural knowledge you must ensure, as far as reasonably practicable, that Ngāti Tūwharetoa cultural information is accurately portrayed. For the avoidance of doubt, this extends to public information that the Commercial Operator may rely on.

Spreading of Human Ashes

To help preserve the cultural and ecological health of Taupō Waters the dispersal of human or animal ashes is strictly prohibited. The Licensee shall not undertake any activity that enables or supports the dispersal of ashes in Taupō Waters.

Foreign Objects/Mandala

The release of foreign objects such as: floating candles, colourful powder mandala, floating lanterns, inflatables, balloons are prohibited.

Protocols for Sites of Significance within Taupō Waters

There are several waahi tapu, waahi tupuna, waahi taonga, and sites of significance within Taupō Waters that have a cultural, historic, and traditional association with Ngāti Tūwharetoa. The sites are areas (lands, waters, and space) which exhibit the following:

- a) Cultural importance such as areas for cultural and spiritual purification, cleansing and/or ceremonial purposes, activities, natural places, fisheries, and food gathering sites;
- b) Historical importance such as areas where Tūwharetoa events occurred;
- c) Tribal importance such as existing and historical marae, papakāinga (communities), urupa (burial grounds), tuahu (monuments), and areas of celebration; and/or
- d) Archaeological importance including areas where taonga tuku iho (see below for definition) are discovered.

The list below (by no means exhaustive) identifies sites significant to hapū of Ngāti Tūwharetoa. Access and other restrictions must be followed by Commercial Operators.

Commercial Operators will work with the Trust Board, through an agreed consultation and engagement process, to identify areas or sites of significance that are or could be affected by an existing or proposed use or activity.

MOTUTAİKO ISLAND

Motutaiko Island is spiritually significant to Ngāti Tūwharetoa and is a privately owned island. It is an urupā (cemetery) and wāhi tapu (sacred place).

Access and Other Restrictions

- No landing on, or public access to, any part of Motutaiko Island.
- Manoeuvring or mooring any vessel within 200m of Motutaiko Island is prohibited. This includes motorised and human-powered vessels, such as kayaks.
- No photos or videos are to be taken or published of Motutaiko Island.
- Commercial Operators must ensure that any images or videos that do exist are not misused or misappropriated to ensure the cultural value of Motutaiko Island is protected. For example, videos or imagery of Motutaiko Island are to not be used in a commercial manner (i.e., for the use of promotional material or otherwise).

TE PŌPORO (ALSO KNOWN AS BULLI POINT)

Te Pōporo is surrounded by many historical sites which are steeped in history and highly respected by Ngāti Tūwharetoa.

- This point is wāhi tapu and to access the cliffs from the water's edge is therefore prohibited.
- Manoeuvring or mooring any vessel within 200m of Te Pōporo is prohibited. This includes motorised and human powered vessels, such as kayaks.

MOTUTERE POINT

Motutere Point is spiritually significant to Ngāti Tūwharetoa. There is urupā (cemetery) and wāhi tapu (sacred places) present.

- Landing on, or public access to, any part of Motutere Point is prohibited.
- Manoeuvring or mooring any vessel within 200m of Te Pōporo is prohibited. This includes motorised and human powered vessels, such as kayaks.

LAKE SHORE TŪWHARETOA MARAE

The following Tūwharetoa Marae are located on the shores of Lake Taupō:

- ✦ Te Mahau Marae (Waihi)
- ✦ Pūkawa Marae
- ✦ Whanganui Bay Marae
- ✦ Waitahanui – Pākira Marae
- ✦ Waihi Marae
- ✦ Poukura Marae
- ✦ Waihāhā Marae

In relation to each of these marae, the following applies:

- ✦ No landing on the foreshore in front of the marae is allowed.
- ✦ No photos or videos are to be taken of the marae, unless the Commercial Operator has the prior written consent of the relevant marae committee.
- ✦ Commercial Operators must ensure that any images or videos that do exist are not misused or misappropriated to ensure the cultural value of the marae is protected. For example, videos or imagery of the marae are not to be used in a commercial manner (i.e., for the use of promotional material or otherwise).
- ✦ Manoeuvring or mooring any vessel within 200m of any marae is prohibited. This includes motorised and human powered vessels, such as kayaks.
- ✦ There is to be no excessive noise within the vicinity of the marae.

FORESHORE URUPĀ (CEMETERIES)

The following are Tūwharetoa urupā located on the shores of Lake Taupō:

- ✦ Waihi Marae
- ✦ Waihāhā Marae
- ✦ Waipāhīhī
- ✦ Pūkawa Marae
- ✦ Waitahanui – Pakira Marae

- ✦ In relation to each of these urupā, the following applies:
- ✦ No landing on the foreshore in front of the urupā.
- ✦ No photos or videos are to be taken or published of urupā
- ✦ Commercial Operators must ensure that any images or videos that do exist are not misused or misappropriated to ensure the cultural value of urupā are protected. For example, videos or imagery of urupā are to not to be used in a commercial manner (i.e. for the use of promotional material or otherwise).
- ✦ Manoeuvring or mooring any vessel within 200m of any urupā is prohibited. This includes motorised and human powered vessels, such as kayaks.

Marketing Material

Any marketing or promotional material must not use any of the waahi tapu, waahi taonga, waahi tupuna, areas and sites of significance within Taupō Waters. The Licensee must consult with the Trust Board if unsure on the location of these sites.



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