

# He Kotuku Rerenga Tahī - The Lake Horowhenua Accord

## Draft 8 as at 6pm, 14 May 2013

### Vision

Lake Horowhenua; *he taonga tukuiho; he taonga mo te katoa mo te katoa*; (A treasure handed down from our ancestors for the enjoyment of all).

The whakatauki (proverb): *He Kotuku Rerenga Tahī* (A white Heron's flight is seen but once) best describes the overarching purpose of coming together to resolve, once and for all, the condition of Lake Horowhenua.

### Background

Five parties representing the Muaupoko owner, community interests and statutory bodies have agreed to work together to provide leadership; to halt the degradation and put in place remedial measures that will begin to return Lake Horowhenua to a taonga (treasure), that holds pride of place in the Horowhenua community. The five parties are the:

Lake Horowhenua Trust;  
Lake Domain Board;  
Horowhenua District Council;  
Horizons Regional Council; and,  
Department of Conservation

### Relationship Principles

The relationship between the owner and other parties should be based on the following principles:

Whakapapa (relationships);  
Kotahitanga (unity);  
Kaitiakitanga (custodianship);  
Wairuatanga (spirituality);  
Rangatiratanga (ownership);  
Manaakitanga (hospitality); and,  
Ukaipotanga (nurturing)

### Acknowledgements

Signatories to: He Kotuku Rerenga Tahī:

- Acknowledge the special legal status of the Trust, and of all beneficial owners of Lake Horowhenua and their cultural interests in respect of the current and ongoing management of the condition of the Lake in their collective role as Kaitiaki;
- Agree the need to recover, protect and enhance the legal interests and cultural values and practices of the owners and Muaupoko Iwi in respect of Lake Horowhenua and its environs;
- Commit to the recovery of Lake Horowhenua for the recreational and leisure enjoyment of the communities of Horowhenua; and,
- Agree to work together collaboratively to develop appropriate instruments for the attainment of the goals: including best governance and management practice that may draw from recent experiences; (for example the Waikato-Tainui River Settlement 2008 and the Manawatu Accord).

### Objectives of: He Kotuku Rerenga Tahī

The objectives of the parties to: He Kotuku Rerenga Tahī are to:

- Return Lake Horowhenua as a source of pride for all people of Horowhenua;
- Enhance the social, recreational, cultural and environmental aspects of Lake Horowhenua in a fiscally responsible manner that will be acceptable to the community of Horowhenua;
- Rehabilitate and protect the health of Lake Horowhenua for future generations; and,
- Consider how to respond to the key issues, management goals and eleven guiding action points set out below.



## Proposed Actions

Any agreed actions shall not derogate from the legal interests of the beneficial owners of Lake Horowhenua and cultural best practice as determined by them.

Activity	Actions
Key Issues	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1] Poor water quality;</li> <li>2] Sources of nutrients and contamination and other causes of adverse effects to the health of the Lake</li> <li>3] Cyanobacteria blooms;</li> <li>4] Excessive lake weed;</li> <li>5] High turbidity and sediment inputs;</li> <li>6] Declining fishery;</li> <li>7] Pest fish, and,</li> <li>8] Confusing and overlapping responsibilities.</li> </ol>
Management Goals	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1] To maintain or enhance the fishery in the lake and its subsidiaries;</li> <li>2] To reduce or eliminate the occurrence of nuisance Cyanobacteria;</li> <li>3] To limit and manage nutrient input into the Lake from all sources</li> <li>4] To improve the water quality of the lake, for example from hypertrophic to super trophic or eutrophic;</li> <li>5] To reduce abundance of aquatic macrophytes in the lake; and,</li> <li>6] To consider more efficient and effective management/decision making processes around the lake and to empower beneficial owners and Muaupoko to more effectively participate in the management of the Lake</li> <li>7] To regularly communicate to beneficial owners the state of the Lake</li> </ol>
Management Actions	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1] Enhance monitoring;</li> <li>2] Public education - including lake report cards;</li> <li>3] Farm environmental plans;</li> <li>4] Boat treatment and weed containment;</li> <li>5] Storm-water diversion [treatment] - spill drain;</li> <li>6] Remove sediment inputs</li> <li>7] Riparian enhancement - Lake;</li> <li>8] Riparian enhancement - streams;</li> <li>9] Lake weed harvesting;</li> <li>10] Pest fish management - including enhanced predation;</li> <li>11] Fish pass at the weir;</li> <li>12] Lake level management; and</li> <li>13] Build the capacity of the Lake Horowhenua Trust to more effectively contribute to the management of the lake.</li> <li>14] To develop a cultural monitoring programme based on Muaupoko values and indicators.</li> <li>15] Build the capacity of beneficial owners and Muaupoko to participate and engage in the management of the Lake.</li> </ol>

## Commitments

The signatories to: He Kotuku Rerenga Tahi, agree to work together in a cohesive manner, to ensure progress towards stated goals is achieved.

The parties will ensure that management actions are practical, affordable and culturally appropriate, and that they can be implemented individually, or in combination, to achieve the objectives of the Accord.



The parties, in acknowledging the Trust's duties and responsibilities owed to beneficial owners, also acknowledge that the Trust will be responsible for communicating with and seeking the approval of beneficial owners to any proposed management plan. The parties will also take steps to assist beneficial owners as priority stakeholders to fully engage and participate in the restoration and ongoing maintenance and enhancement of the health of the Lake and to exercise their role as Kaitiaki.

The parties acknowledge that education through the preparation of regular reports on milestones that have been achieved will be important to the wider public understanding and support for the management and operational processes under this Accord.

The signatories agree to meet at least four times each year to consider progress towards their stated goals.

At their first meeting the signatories will agree on the reporting model and frequency of communication to formalize progress reports. Signatories are also to agree by resolution at the beginning of each calendar year, the appointment of representatives to attend the quarterly meetings. Representatives are to be delegated the power to act except that the Trust shall first consult with and seek authorization from, beneficial owners in relation to the finalisation and/or implementation of any management plan before the Trust representative can act.

**Signed by**

Lake Horowhenua Trustees

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Lake Domain Board

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Department of Conservation

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Horizons Regional Council

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Horowhenua District Council

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