

7 October 2024

██████████
By email: ██████████

Tēnā koe ██████████

Thank you for your correspondence of 10 September 2024 requesting information under the Official Information Act 1982 in relation to the process and timeline for cultural redress negotiations for Tongariro National Park and the status of Rangipō North 8 block within the park. Our response is below.

1. Process of cultural redress negotiations for Tongariro National Park.

Cultural redress in relation to Tongariro National Park will be developed through collective negotiations between the Crown and iwi and hapū with interests in Tongariro National Park including Ngāti Hāua, Ngāti Rangī, Ngāti Tūwharetoa, Te Korowai o Wainuiārua and their post-settlement governance entities.

The Crown's commitment to undertake collective cultural redress negotiations is recorded in the Deeds of Settlement of Historical Claims for each of these groups, or, in the case of Ngāti Hāua, in their Agreement in Principle to Settle Historical Claims. These documents are available online and can be found at:
<https://www.tearawhiti.govt.nz/te-kahui-whakatau-treaty-settlements/find-a-treaty-settlement>.

General information on cultural redress and the Treaty settlement process can be found in *Ka tika ā muri, ka tika ā mua – Healing the past, building a future*. Also known as the 'Red Book', this is a guide to historical Treaty of Waitangi claims and Treaty settlement negotiations. It is available online and can be found at:
<https://www.tearawhiti.govt.nz/te-kahui-whakatau-treaty-settlements/the-red-book/>.

The Crown and Ngā Iwi o Taranaki recently concluded negotiations in relation to Egmont National Park and Taranaki Maunga. While each national park negotiation will focus on the specific geographic, cultural and historical issues at place, the Taranaki Maunga arrangements provide a recent example of the types of redress that could be discussed in relation to Tongariro National Park. The relevant documents can be found at: <https://www.tearawhiti.govt.nz/te-kahui-whakatau-treaty-settlements/find-a-treaty-settlement/taranaki-maunga/> and <https://www.legislation.govt.nz/bill/government/2023/0293/latest/LMS899476.html>

2. Timeline – has it started yet or is it yet to begin, are there any dates or timelines it has to be completed within?

Substantive discussions about cultural redress in relation to Tongariro National Park are yet to begin.

The Ngāti Tūwharetoa Deed of Settlement records the Crown's commitment to begin meaningful negotiations for cultural redress in relation to Tongariro National Park within one year of the date of the Deed, i.e. by 9 July 2018. The Crown met with representatives of iwi and hapū with interests in Tongariro National Park in July 2018, where it was agreed that collective negotiations would be postponed until the settlements of all groups with interests in Tongariro National Park were further progressed.

3. Status of Rangipō North 8 block - whether [Rangipō North 8] block has been considered settled within [the Ngāti Rangī settlement] process, or if it is to be addressed within the cultural redress te kāhui maunga process?

The historical claims of Ngāti Rangī, including in relation to Rangipō North 8 block, were settled by the Ngāti Rangī Deed of Settlement and Ngāti Rangī Claims Settlement Act 2019. The Deed of Settlement records the Crown's acknowledgements of, and apology for, its historical actions and omissions in relation to Rangipō North 8 block which breached the Treaty of Waitangi/Te Tiriti o Waitangi and its principles.

Part of Rangipō North 8 block is situated within Tongariro National Park. As noted above, cultural redress in relation to Tongariro National Park will be developed and provided through the collective negotiations. The part of the block that lies outside Tongariro National Park was renamed Rangiwaea-Tāpiri in the late 1990s. It is Māori customary land.

Some cultural redress in the Ngāti Rangī Treaty Settlement applies over areas which include Rangipō North 8 block and Rangiwaea-Tāpiri. For example, the Ngāti Rangī Claims Settlement Act 2019 established Ngā Wai Tōtā o Te Waiū, a statutory body over the Whangaehu River catchment, in which Rangipō North 8 block and Rangiwaea-Tāpiri are located.

Further information

The Waitangi Tribunal inquired into historical Treaty of Waitangi claims in relation to Tongariro National Park as part of its National Park inquiry from 2004-2013. It includes some information on the history of Rangipō North 8 block. The Tribunal's 2013 report, *Te Kāhui Maunga: The National Park District Inquiry Report*, is available online and can be found at <https://www.waitangitribunal.govt.nz/en/education/tribunal-reports>.

Proactive release

When Te Arawhiti acknowledged receipt of your OIA request, we advised we may proactively release your OIA response on our website. After considering our response to your request, we can advise it will be published on our website no earlier than 20 working days from the date of this letter at www.tearawhiti.govt.nz. Your personal and other identifying information will be

removed. If you have any concerns about the information in this response being published, please contact us by emailing officialcorrespondence@tearawhiti.govt.nz by 5:00pm on 22 October.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about this process is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or phone 0800 802 602.

Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Hyett', written in a cursive style.

Fern Hyett
Regional Director