

WAITUTU MATAITAI

3rd ANNUAL REPORT

29 March 2018

The Annual Report of the Kai Tiaki for the Waitutu Mataitai, will be presented to those interested, at the Waiau Club, King Street, Tuatapere, at 11am on Thursday 29 March 2018.

It was reported in 2017 that Stephen Logie from the local Ministry of Primary Industries office had been into the Lodge, DOC Huts, Hump Ridge and other places, and put notices up about our Mataitai and the fact that it was closed for paua. I had not mentioned that the Mataitai extends South out to sea for three kilometres, and also that he had spent time with Rose Baldwin to make sure she was able and prepared to be our resident Kai Tiaki.

Rose was approved by a person at the coalface with many years of experience, and provided with a Customary Authorisation book. Since then we were notified by someone from the Ministry of Primary Industries office, that we must send them a letter of support from the Oraka Aparima Runanga. We requested this, and Oraka have sent a letter refusing to do this, so nothing has changed from the 12½ years it has taken us to get our Mataitai.

During that time, Oraka Aparima insisted that they had jurisdiction over the area from Riverton to Milford Sound, and MPI went along with that. They need reminding that the four Southland Runanga agreed we would all have an area where we would endeavour to encourage people to fish in a Customary way, and leave breeding stock.

Because of the grounding we had when we sat around the table during the development of the Ngai Tahu Customary Regulations, all were made Kai Tiaki, from Milford Sound to the Matau (Clutha River).

I was annoyed when the Wellington MPI office would not give us the strip along the shore from the Wairaurahiri River to the lighthouse at Long Point which we had applied for, but there is a plus - with the area going out beyond where Commercial can dive, the paua are making their way in, which has meant we did not have to re-seed them.

Another plus is that with Commercial being locked out of an area going out so far, people are able to dive for a feed of crayfish, which is like it used to be.

The Marine branch of Otago University think that paua could be recovered in about five years, and with them taking students in every few years to check the transects, we will watch this space.

Graham Metzger
Kai Tiaki

WAITUTU INCORPORATION

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MATAITAI MEETING

29 March 2018, 11 a.m.

Held at Waiiau Town & Country Club, Tuatapere.

Present: 10 people

Annual Report: Graham Metzger, Kaitiaki, presented the Annual Report to the meeting. No customary authorisations have been issued for our Mataitai area.

Appointment of Kaitiaki: Lynley McKay and Stewart Bull from Oraka Aparima Runanga were present. They explained that they supported our appointment of Rose Baldwin as a Kaitiaki, but not as Tangatiaki who is able to issue permits. Dene had been to a meeting at Oraka and took part in the discussion. After having it explained to us, the current position is satisfactory.

Graham had asked if Oraka would like to have our Mataitai meeting at the same time as their meeting in Riverton, and received no reply. Lack of communication is affecting support. Lynley apologised, but she had understood that his enquiry had been replied to. Lynley said they were happy to have the meeting there.

Oraka will be meeting with the Ministry of Primary Industries soon, and they will clarify that they support the Incorporation Mataitai and the appointment of Rose as Kaitiaki, but not as Tangatiaki to issue permits.

Graham asked if Oraka would support having all Mataitai meetings in the region on the same day. Stewart would support that. Could be difficult getting everyone to agree on a date.

Paua Monitoring: Graham advised that the Otago University is developing an identifying marking system for paua, so that they can be identified as breeding stock, which could be used for future management.

Meeting closed at 11.40am.