WHO ARE TE KOROWAI O TE TAI Ō MAROKURA?

We are a group of people standing for local leadership about the use and protection of our marine environment. We have come together to develop a management strategy for our coast. The strategy is a korowai (cloak) for Te Tai Ō Marokura and we are weaving that korowai.

Our vision is a future where the moana (sea) of Kaikōura is richer and healthier. We want it to be used sustainably, providing for the needs of present and future generations. In this vision, people will interact with the sea in ways that care for its mauri (life force). People’s activity will be managed to respect the natural connections between living and physical elements and sustain the sea’s dynamic ecological balance.

We operate as an incorporated society with the assistance of an independent facilitator. All policy decisions are made by local Kaikōura residents, advised by professional agency support and advisory members.

Te Korowai o Te Tai Ō Marokura literally means the cloak of Te Tai Ō Marokura. Culturally it means to lay the cloak or mantle of Ngāi Kūri over Te Tai Ō Marokura, caring for the seas around Kaikōura.

BACKGROUND

Te Rūnanga o Kaikōura had discussed issues about our sea and coastline for generations. We needed our community working together to protect our coastline. The Fiordland Guardians’ model inspired us. We thought if they can do it, we can too.

People were chosen for Te Korowai: as users of our sea, for their knowledge of the coast, as members of key organisations, and for their interest in the coast.

MEMBERSHIP

MEMBERS

Members of Te Korowai o Te Tai Ō Marokura, Kaikōura Coastal Marine Guardians Incorporated in February 2009 are:

Dennis Buurman
Dick Cleall
Richard Craig
Ian Croucher
Barry Dunnett
Ted Howard
Lynda Kitchingham
Maurice Manawatu
John Nicholls
Philip Richardson
Tourist Boat Operator
Set Net Fishers
Recreational Fishers
Charter Boat Operators
NZ Royal Forest & Bird Society (Kaikōura Branch)
Kaikōura Boating Club
NZ Royal Forest & Bird Society (Kaikōura Branch)
Te Rūnanga o Kaikōura
Independent Chair
PAUA 3

OFFICERS OF THE INCORPORATED SOCIETY

John Nicholls
Ted Howard
Gina Solomon
Chair
Treasurer
Secretary

INDEPENDENT FACILITATOR

Servicing and supporting the process:
Peter Lawless
Independent facilitator

AGENCY SUPPORT AND ADVISORY MEMBERS

Providing expert advice and links to management agencies are:
Andrew Baxter
Tony Brett
Dave Hayes
David Hewson
Alisdair Hutchison
Mike Morrissey
Nigel Scott

CRAMAC 5
Kaikōura Marine & Coastal Protection Society

Te Rūnanga o Kaikōura
Te Rūnanga o Kaikōura,
Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu
Te Rūnanga o Kaikōura
Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu
Kaikōura District Council
Department of Conservation
Ministry of Fisheries
Department of Conservation
Environment Canterbury
Ministry of Environment
Department of Conservation (Kaikōura)
Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu

By perpetuating the mauri and wairua of “Te Tai Ō Marokura”, we as kaitiaki of Tangaroa’s tāonga are leading the community to achieve a flourishing, rich and healthy environment where opportunities abound to sustain the needs of present and future generations.
WHAT IS TE TAI O MAROKURA?
Te Tai ō Marokura is the realm of Tangaroa, god of the sea. Tangaroa was the first husband of Papatuānuku (the Earth Mother) before she wed Ranginui (the Sky Father). The fishing harbours and sheltered coastal areas of the eastern coastline of Te Waipounamu were created by Tuterakiwhanoa. He was sent by his grandfather Ranginui to enable human occupation of the lands of Te Waka o Aoraki. These are the lands of Te Waipounamu that formed when the waka navigated by Ranginui’s sons ran aground on a hidden reef and turned to stone and earth.

Te Tai ō Marokura is an integral part of Ngāti Kurī history and cultural identity. The immense importance of the area historically, culturally and spiritually is as dynamic as its geography and its life forms that depend on it. This is acknowledged in the law as a recorded statement of the relationship between Ngāi Tahu and the Kaikōura coast.

WHY ARE WE DOING THIS?
We have watched our coast being abused and un cared for, not just by visitors but also by some locals, and wanted to do something about it. We want our community to be able to enjoy the bounty of Tangaroa and to make sure that bounty is still there for us and our children who come after us.

WHAT WE ARE CURRENTLY DOING?
Te Korowai is balancing involvement with marine issues of the day with developing a long term strategy to enhance sustainable use and protection of our coast.

We have returned to the table this year refreshed, revitalised and determined to complete our draft strategy by the end of 2010. The purpose of the strategy is to create agreement within Kaikōura, with the management agencies, and with all people connected with this place, on how our community vision will be achieved.

We welcome involvement from any person or organisation with an interest in the future of our coast. We are distributing newsletters via our email distribution list (contact our Secretary with your contact details). The Newsletter will also be available on our website to keep you informed of progress.

We meet every 6 weeks or whenever the need arises to further our vision. Our members are active in all aspects of marine use and protection.

If you would like more details of Te Korowai o Te Tai ō Marokura or want a Guardian to meet with you please contact:

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