

HE PANUI - RUAWAIPU CLUSTER

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For more info go to www.ruawaipu.com

Introduction

Who is Ruawaipu? – Ruawaipu are tangata whenua pre migration that still occupy the northern East Coast territory commonly known as the area from Potaka to Tikapa. In 2004, Ruawaipu, and other traditional tribes of the East Coast, were granted the right to pursue their claims independent of Ngati Porou and to seek funding from the Crown Forestry Rental Trust (CFRT) to prepare research to support their claims. At present there are approximately 50 Ruawaipu claims in the East Coast Inquiry.

The website

Information about;

- the Ruawaipu cluster
- the Ruawaipu claims
- Ruawaipu claimants
- current research
- Ruawaipu history
- Crown treaty breaches

To view this information and much more, simply go to; www.ruawaipu.com

Where are things at?

We are at the pre-casebook phase of the inquiry in which a series of scoping reports and main research reports are commissioned. The casebook is the record of all the documentary evidence for the inquiry. The Tribunal has extended the deadline for the completion of all the technical research reports to be filed on the record by March 2009.

Claimant evidence

Dr Grant Young, a historian, was commissioned by the CFRT in August 2007 to undertake a Ruawaipu oral & traditional history research project. This project will be crucial to the compilation of the Ruawaipu evidential base. Oral interviews have been undertaken and are in the process of being transcribed. There is nearly 1000 pages of evidence.

Dr Young will use this resource to assist in the drafting of a Ruawaipu Traditional History Report. This report, once ratified by the Ruawaipu claimant community, will be critical to substantiating Ruawaipu claimant allegations of prejudice to Ruawaipu caused by Crown acts and omissions in breach of the principles of Te Tiriti. The draft report is due for release in April 2009.

Current issues

A Bill to give legal effect to the Ngati Porou foreshore and seabed settlement has been introduced to the House of Representatives. If the Bill becomes law, the Tribunal will be blocked from inquiring into all Ruawaipu claims against the Foreshore and Seabed Act. The jurisdiction for the Courts to inquire into the validity of the FSSB settlement deed will also be removed.

TRONP has also engaged with Dr Cullen (previous Minister for Treaty of Waitangi Negotiations) to settle Ruawaipu historical treaty claims without the consent of Ruawaipu. Judge Milroy has stood down as Presiding Officer due to Ruawaipu claimant allegations of bias. Judge Stephen Clark has been appointed as the new Presiding Officer for the East Coast Inquiry. Lawyers representing Ruawaipu claimants are also taking steps in the High Court to halt the Crown / TRONP direct negotiations. Ruawaipu claimants want their story to be told.

How to register

You can register on line via the website or we can send you a registration form.

How to contact us

Postal address:

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