

Progress

of Claimants

During the 2004/05 financial year the Crown Forestry Rental Trust (CFRT) assisted a large number of claimant groups progressing claims to Crown forest licensed land in both the Waitangi Tribunal and the Office of Treaty Settlements processes. CFRT works within an extremely complex environment and the following summary of district progress demonstrates the large amount of activity CFRT currently supports.

Te Runanga o Ngati Awa

The Ngati Awa Claim Settlement Act was passed on 17 March 2005 settling the Ngati Awa historical claims and confirming Te Runanga o Ngati Awa as a beneficiary of Crown Forestry Rental Trust. Te Runanga o Ngati Awa elected to receive approximately 9400 hectares of Rotoehu West, Rotoehu East and Northern Boundary Forests as part of the \$42 million compensation package negotiated with the Office of Treaty Settlements.

Due to the timing of the passage of the Ngati Awa Claims Settlement Act \$16.7 million of accumulated rentals from these licensed forest lands were transferred to Ngati Awa in April 2005. This will appear as a distribution in the Trust's 2005/06 Annual Report.

Tuwharetoa ki Kawerau

The Ngati Tuwharetoa (Bay of Plenty) Claims Settlement Bill was introduced to Parliament in November 2004 and passed in May 2005. This legislation confirms Tuwharetoa ki Kawerau as a beneficiary of CFRT and allows the transfer of \$1.7 million accumulated rentals to Tuwharetoa ki Kawerau for their interest in Rotoehu West Crown forest license.



The Ngati Tuwharetoa (Bay of Plenty) Claims Settlement Bill was introduced to Parliament in November 2004 and passed in May 2005.

Central North Island

The Central North Island (CNI) has remained a priority for CFRT during the 2004/05 financial year with both the Waitangi Tribunal and the Office of Treaty Settlements being active in the region. Progress within the region has been significant but not without difficulties.

The CNI dual process has illustrated differences in the Waitangi Tribunal and the Office of Treaty Settlements processes. This has also highlighted division within some of the Central North Island tribal groupings as to the most appropriate path to take to achieve a settlement. CFRT is currently supporting CNI groups to participate in direct negotiations and the Waitangi Tribunal Stage One Inquiry.

CNI NEGOTIATIONS

Nga Kaihoutu o Te Arawa

Nga Kaihoutu o Te Arawa Executive Council signed Terms of Negotiation with the Office of Treaty Settlements in November 2004. It has been involved in an intensive mandate confirmation process through much of the year. This has been undertaken to address concerns raised by Te Arawa groups wishing to remain outside of Nga Kaihoutu negotiations in order to pursue the Waitangi Tribunal hearings. A number of Te Arawa groups continue to remain outside of the Nga Kaihoutu mandate and negotiations.

Nga Kaihoutu and the Office of Treaty Settlements are continuing to work towards an Agreement in Principle with CFRT assistance.

Te Runanga o Ngati Manawa

Te Runanga o Ngati Manawa signed Terms of Negotiation with the Office of Treaty Settlements in May 2004. For the remainder of the year it has been in negotiations with the Crown with the goal of an Agreement in Principle. CFRT has supported Te Runanga o Ngati Manawa with funding to carry out its negotiations.

Te Runanga o Ngati Whare Iwi Trust

Ngati Whare signed Terms of Negotiation with the Office of Treaty Settlements in May 2004 and are currently negotiating an Agreement in Principle. CFRT has been supporting Ngati Whare during the year with funding towards organisational development and negotiations.

Tuwharetoa Hapu Forum

Ngati Tuwharetoa Hapu Forum succeeded in gaining a Crown-recognised mandate to negotiate the Tuwharetoa Historical Treaty claims in early 2004 and were working towards finalising Terms of Negotiation. Ngati Tuwharetoa claimants are also progressing their claims through the Waitangi Tribunal process. The Office of Treaty Settlements has recently suspended negotiations with Ngati Tuwharetoa until the Waitangi Tribunal process is completed.

It is presently unclear what this will mean for the status of the Ngati Tuwharetoa Hapu Forum mandate in the future.

In September 2004 CFRT completed the Stage One Generic Casebook research programme consisting of 12 substantial historical reports.

WAITANGI TRIBUNAL STAGE ONE CENTRAL NORTH ISLAND INQUIRY

In addition to providing negotiations funding to the mandated CNI groups, CFRT has also assisted with funding for Stage One of the Waitangi Tribunal Central North Island Inquiry.

The Trust has completed three historical reports for the Tongariro National Park district as part of the Waitangi Tribunal's CNI Stage One Inquiry. In September 2004 CFRT completed the Stage One Generic Casebook research programme consisting of 12 substantial historical reports. In November 2004 the Stage One Generic hearings schedule was established by the Waitangi Tribunal.

Four weeks of hearings were completed by the end of March 2005 supported by CFRT funding. Between December 2004 and March 2005 CFRT funded the presentation of evidence by 13 researchers and undertook a series of remedial research projects following the Tribunal's casebook review.

CFRT issued three CNI Stage One map books based in part on information from the Land History & Alienation Database. This information has been presented to the Waitangi Tribunal and made available to CNI claimants involved in the inquiry process. CFRT has also provided a range of mapping services for groups presenting in Tribunal hearings and direct negotiations with the Office of Treaty Settlements.

Ngati Apa

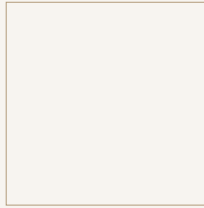
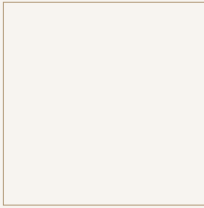
Te Runanga o Ngati Apa submitted a draft Deed of Mandate to the Office of Treaty Settlements in May 2004. This mandate was formally recognised by the Crown in November 2004. Te Runanga o Ngati Apa is currently developing Terms of Negotiation with the Office of Treaty Settlements. CFRT has commissioned an Executive Claims Summary for Ngati Apa.

Turanganui a Kiwa (Gisborne)

The Waitangi Tribunal released the Turanga Tangata Whenua report on the Turanganui a Kiwa claims in October 2004. CFRT supported Ngai Tamanuhiri and Te Aitanga a Mahaki (represented by Te Pou a Haokai) to complete their mandating processes. The Office of Treaty Settlements publicly advertised the Deeds of Mandate in May 2005.

Te Tau Ihu (Northern South Island)

The Waitangi Tribunal completed hearings for the Te Tau Ihu inquiry in March 2004. Since this time the Kurahaupo ki Te Waipounamu Trust (representing Rangitane o Wairau, Ngati Apa and Ngati Kuia) and Te Runanga o Ngati Toa have been working towards submitting Deeds of Mandate to the Office of Treaty Settlements. Kurahaupo ki Te Waipounamu Trust will complete a "Sites of Significance" project in May 2005.



Wairarapa ki Tararua Inquiry District

The Waitangi Tribunal completed a nine-week hearing programme between April 2004 and March 2005. CFRT worked with five claimant clusters to support the hearings process, including the hosting of hearings, the preparation and presentation of claimant evidence, and claimant attendance. CFRT also funded the presentation of evidence by CFRT commissioned researchers for 24 research reports and completed several overview and claimant map books.

Wairarapa ki Tararua groups are now discussing ways to progress their claims with the Office of Treaty Settlements.

Hauraki

During 2004 CFRT has supported Hauraki with a research project identifying their traditional interests in the Tamaki Makaurau district. Hauraki claimants are presently in discussions as to the best way to advance into direct negotiations with the Office of Treaty Settlements.

Urewera Inquiry District

Eight weeks of Urewera hearings were completed by March 2005. The remaining three weeks of hearings (Crown and closing submissions) will be completed in June 2005. During 2004/05 CFRT provided financial support for the hosting of hearings, the preparation and presentation of claimant evidence, and for claimant attendance. CFRT also funded the presentation of evidence for 35 research reports and completed overview and claimant map books.

East Coast Inquiry District

CFRT has participated in Waitangi Tribunal's pre-casebook interlocutory process. Funding has been provided to assist with claimant costs of three Judicial Conferences.

Whanganui Inquiry District

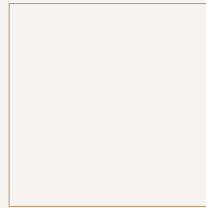
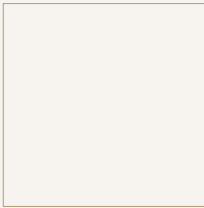
During the 2004/05 year CFRT funded the completion of seven research reports for the Waitangi Tribunal's Whanganui district casebook. CFRT has continued to support the four Whanganui claimant clusters (Northern, Central, Southern, Ngati Rangi) to co-ordinate the preparation for hearings in 2006.

Tauranga Moana Inquiry District

Two remaining Tauranga research contracts were resolved during the 2004/05 financial year. One project was completed and the second project was terminated with the agreement of the claimant group. The Waitangi Tribunal issued the Tauranga Moana Raupatu report in September 2004. Tauranga Moana claimant groups are yet to decide whether to enter into Treaty negotiations with the Office of Treaty Settlements or return to the Waitangi Tribunal to have post-confiscation issues heard.

Mohaka ki Ahuriri Inquiry District

The Waitangi Tribunal released the Mohaka ki Ahuriri report in June 2004. Since this time Mohaka claimants have been in preliminary discussions with the Office of Treaty Settlements on how to proceed with negotiations.



Wairoa Inquiry District

During 2004/05, the Wairoa Working Group continued working on a Deed of Mandate, however, progress has been slow. Substantial progress was made towards completing the evidential base in 2004, with drafts of all reports finished and distributed for comment and review. The completed evidential base will be submitted to the Office of Treaty Settlements in June 2005, following sign-off by Wairoa claimants.

Southern Hawke's Bay Inquiry District

Southern Hawke's Bay claimants approached CFRT for assistance in November 2004. By March 2005, contract details were being finalised between CFRT and He Toa Takitini claimant cluster, for funding to assist claimant coordination and to prepare an appropriate research plan for the district. He Toa Takitini is a single grouping of all Southern Hawke's Bay claimants.

Northland Districts

The Northland District contains over 140 Waitangi Tribunal claims spread over six different Waitangi Tribunal districts from Cape Reinga to Auckland. These districts include Muriwhenua (which completed the Waitangi Tribunal process in 1997), Whangaroa, Hokianga, Bay of Islands, Whangarei and Mahurangi & Gulf Islands. Various groups are involved in different phases of the Treaty settlement process. Some are in negotiations with the Office of Treaty Settlements and others are early in the preparation stage for Waitangi Tribunal hearings.

CFRT has funded claimant co-ordination and research preparation activities in each of these districts.

NORTHLAND WAITANGI TRIBUNAL INQUIRY DISTRICTS

Progress has been made in Northland with the five Waitangi Tribunal inquiry districts. Specific achievements during 2004/05 include:

- ☞ The development of a comprehensive Northland research programme covering Whangaroa, Hokianga, Bay of Islands, Whangarei and Mahurangi & Gulf Islands Waitangi Tribunal inquiry districts. All claimant collectives within Northland have endorsed this plan and professional historians have been contracted.
- ☞ In December 2004 Northland Claimant Collectives approved the establishment of a Northland Research Advisory Committee formally referred to as Tai Tokerau Roopu Whakapiripiri. The Committee comprises of seven respected Northland Maori with professional and cultural expertise. This will ensure the professional research produced reflects the Northland Maori experience and perspective.
- ☞ CFRT is also assisting Northland claimants with oral and traditional research projects.

NORTHLAND DIRECT NEGOTIATIONS

CFRT is currently assisting three Muriwhenua tribes to progress their settlement negotiations with the Office of Treaty Settlements.

Te Aupouri Negotiation Company

Te Aupouri Negotiation Company mandate to represent Te Aupouri in Treaty settlement negotiations was reconfirmed in 2004. Te Aupouri signed an Agreement in Principle with the Office of Treaty Settlements in September 2004 and are now working to achieve Deed of Settlement by December 2005.

Te Runanga a Iwi o Ngati Kahu

As at March 2004, Te Runanga a Iwi o Ngati Kahu had signed Terms of Negotiation with the Office of Treaty Settlements. During 2004 CFRT supported Te Runanga a Iwi o Ngati Kahu with funding assistance to continue negotiating towards signing an Agreement in Principle.

Te Runanga o Te Rarawa

Te Runanga o Te Rarawa is currently in negotiations with the Office of Treaty Settlements and progressing towards achieving an Agreement in Principle. CFRT has assisted Te Runanga o Te Rarawa with funding assistance to undertake these negotiations.



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