IN THE WAITANGI TRIBUNAL

Wai 45

CONCERNING the Treaty of Waitangi Act 1975

AND the Renewed Muriwhenua Land Inquiry

MEMORANDUM-DIRECTIONS OF JUDGE C M WAINWRIGHT RELEASING COMMISSIONED RESEARCH AND APPROVING CLAIM PARTICIPATION

3 July 2026

Releasing commissioned research

1. On 11 June 2025 the Tribunal commissioned Suzanne Woodley, contract historian, to prepare for the Renewed Muriwhenua Land Inquiry "Post-1865 Block Narratives – Report Three" (Wai 45, #2.947 at [1] and [3]).
2. The original deadline for filing was 16 February 2026 (Wai 45, #2.947 at [3]), but in my memorandum-directions of 27 March 2026, I extended that to 29 September 2026 (Wai 45, #2.979 at [4]).
3. The Tribunal has now received the report, and I direct the Registrar to enter it on to the Wai 45 Record of Inquiry. The title of the report is:

'Muriwhenua Post-1865 Block Narratives, Report Three'

Wai 1333 claim participation

4. At the outset of this renewed inquiry, outstanding claims that fall within the inquiry district were identified, and in 2020 I directed participating parties to outline relevant aspects of their claims, identify areas of interest in the inquiry district and file memoranda expressing interest in participating (Wai 45, #2.712; #2.734 & #2.748). On 1 October 2020 I confirmed the list of claims eligible to participate and approved claims consolidated in the Wai 1040, Te Paparahi o Te Raki (Northland) District Inquiry to participate in this inquiry, with the Tribunal taking the necessary steps to change claim status to "aggregated" (Wai 45, #2.789).

5. On 22 July 2025, counsel for the Ngati Uru and Te Whanau Pani (Wai 1333) claim, Mahony Horner, filed a memorandum asking the Tribunal to allow the Wai 1333 claim to participate in this inquiry. They provided a map that identifies the claim's area of interest (Wai 45, #2.972 & #2.972(a)). Counsel acknowledged that the request comes long after we decided on the claims to be included in this inquiry and outlined the specific aspects of this claim that relate to land in this inquiry district (Wai 45, #2.972 at [9]-[13]).

6. Some time ago, via the Tribunal Registrar, I informed counsel that this claim's status in the Wai 1040 inquiry had changed from consolidated to aggregated, thereby approving its inclusion in the claims that are part of this inquiry. I now formally confirm the claim's participation.

7. The Registrar is to send this direction to:
   (a) Suzanne Woodley;
   (b) Claimant counsel, Crown counsel, and unrepresented claimants in the Renewed Muriwhenua Land Inquiry;
   (c) Chief Historian, Waitangi Tribunal Unit;
   (d) Principal Research Analysts, Waitangi Tribunal Unit;
   (e) Manager Research Services, Waitangi Tribunal Unit;
   (f) Manager Inquiry Facilitation, Waitangi Tribunal Unit;
   (g) Principal Inquiry Facilitator, Waitangi Tribunal Unit;
   (h) Solicitor General, Crown Law Office;

(i) Chief Executive, Te Tari Whakatau;

(j) Chief Executive, Crown Forestry Rental Trust; and

(k) Chief Executive, Te Puni Kōkiri;

(l) and those on the distribution list for Wai 45, the Renewed Muriwhenua Land Inquiry.

DATED at Wellington this 3rd day of July 2026

Judge C M Wainwright
Presiding Officer
WAITANGI TRIBUNAL