

Restoring original Māori place names

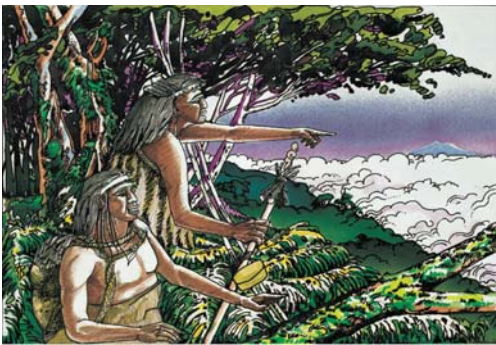
New Zealand's authority on place names, the New Zealand Geographic Board Ngā Pou Taunaha o Aotearoa (Geographic Board), is committed to restoring original Māori place names.

Many original Māori place names have been restored through the Treaty settlement process. Beyond a Treaty settlement, the Geographic Board can still correct or restore Māori place names.

What is the benefit in proposing original Māori names to the Geographic Board?

Original Māori place names mark events that happened at a particular place. They also commemorate ancestors and reference significant connections to the people that lived there.

Restoring these place names to our landscape helps to bring history back to life and preserve it for future generations.



Artwork by Cliff Whiting, Geographic Board copyright



How can you help?

If you know of an original Māori place name that is not currently on record, or is incorrect, then you can send a proposal to the Geographic Board to have it restored.

Anyone can make a proposal to the Geographic Board to correct an existing place name or assign a new one. Names can be recorded with their stories, where available, and published online for everyone to see.

When they become official, place names can then be added to maps and charts and must be used on all official documents including signs.

What can be named?

- rivers
- mountains
- hills
- valleys
- lagoons
- swamps
- beaches
- bays
- islands
- lakes
- ridges
- rocks
- peaks
- points
- peninsulas
- localities
- historic sites
- and more...

Contact

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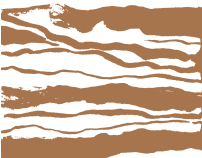
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