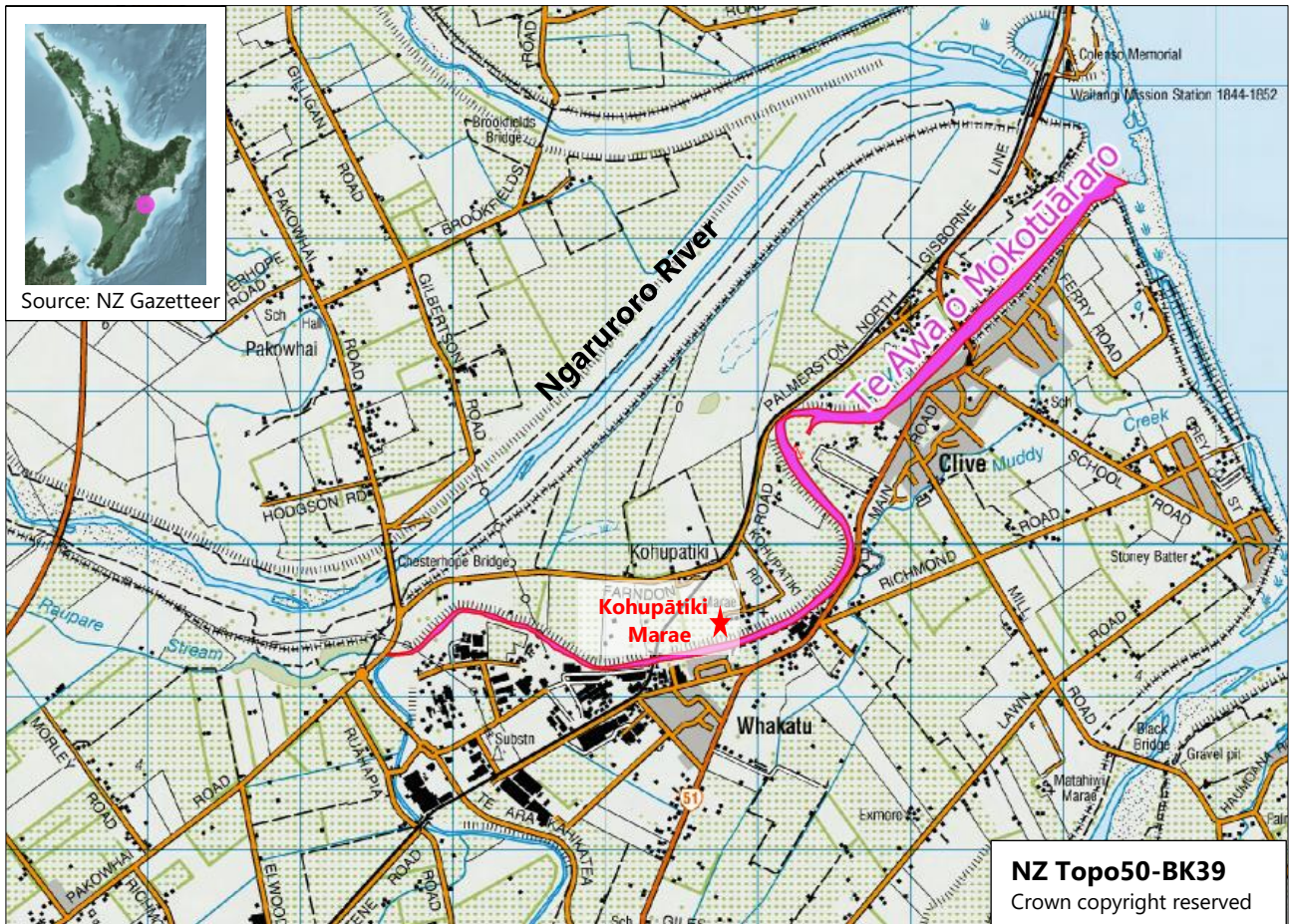


Submissions considered by Pou Taunaha on 26 April 2023 for Te Awa o Mokotūāraro

[altered from Clive River]



Summary

At its hui on 2 December 2022 Pou Taunaha¹ accepted a proposal from Operation Pātiki Charitable Trust ki Kohupātiki Marae to alter the official place name Clive River to Te Awa o Mokotūāraro.

During the public notification period between 18 January 2023 and 23 February 2023 Pou Taunaha received 320 submissions supporting and 66 submissions objecting to the proposal. The proposal was notified at the same time as the proposals for Kororāreka, Te Kamo and Ngāmoko Stream, and another 11 objecting submissions were received that didn't specify which proposal they were objecting to. Pou Taunaha may wish to consider or discount those 11 submissions.

The reasons in the objecting submissions are responded to below. They are not considered to outweigh the original reasons why Pou Taunaha accepted the proposal.

¹ Ngā Pou Taunaha o Aotearoa New Zealand Geographic Board

Secretariat recommendation

At its 26 April 2023 hui Pou Taunaha resolved this recommendation with edits to reflect its decision.

Consider all submissions on the proposal to alter the official place name Clive River to **Te Awa o Mokotūāraro** and their reasons,

and

Reject the 66 objecting submissions based on the reasons provided not outweighing the reasons that Pou Taunaha previously accepted for the proposal, being:

- the functions of Pou Taunaha are to investigate and determine the priority of the discovery of a geographic feature, and collect and encourage the use of original Māori names on official charts and maps,
- the name restoring the historic connection between Clive River and Ngaruroro River, which has the original Māori name Ngaruroro Moko-tū-ā-raro ki Rangatira for the full length of the whole original awa,
- the Māori generic term 'Awa' appropriately describing the feature, and
- Heretaunga Tamatea Settlement Trust, Napier City Council and Hastings District Council supporting the proposal.

Noting the considerable number of supporting submissions (320) ~~being four times the number of objections~~, and that their reasons indicate a high level of interest and acceptance from the community and wider New Zealand,

and

Confirm the earlier Pou Taunaha decision to alter the official place name Clive River to **Te Awa o Mokotūāraro**,

and

Report the Pou Taunaha decision to the Minister for Land Information **and request** the Minister to make the final determination on the proposal because Pou Taunaha did not uphold the objections.

Background

Pou Taunaha
minutes 22
December
2022
[abridged]

Advising the proposers that Pou Taunaha had declined their proposal to alter Clive River to Ngaruroro Moko-tū-ā-raro ki Rangatira had been emotional. Pou Taunaha noted that Ngāti Kahungunu Iwi Inc and Heretaunga Tamatea Settlement Trust support this new proposal and agreed to notify it for one month.

Notification

Advice to
mana
whenua

On 5 December 2022 the Secretariat advised Mana Ahuriri Trust that Pou Taunaha would be publicly notifying the proposal for submissions for one month on 18 January 2023. The proposer had included letters of support from Napier City Council and Hastings District Council with the proposal.

Advice to
MPs

On 18 January 2023 the Secretariat advised the Members of Parliament for Tukituki and Ikaroa-Rāwhiti and all adjacent electorates that the proposal was open for submissions until 23 February 2023.

Public notification including social media

Pou Taunaha advertised the proposals:

- in the [New Zealand Gazette](#), *Sunday Star Times*, *Hastings Leader* and *Hawke's Bay Today*,
 - on the Toitū Te Whenua LINZ² [Consultation](#) and [Facebook](#)[™] pages, and
 - on the New Zealand Government's [Consultation](#) page.
-

Media

Pou Taunaha released a [media advisory](#) in te reo Māori and English on 18 January 2023, which was also posted on the Toitū Te Whenua LINZ website. A number of media articles were published during the public consultation period including:

- [Bid to change river's name from controversial colonial leader takes next step](#)
 - [Clive River name change supported by board](#)
 - [Te Awa o Mokotūāraro new name for Clive River](#)
 - [Clive River: It's more than just a name change](#)
 - [Jumping fish set for return to awa](#)
 - [Support for new awa name hailed](#)
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Submissions

Summary

During the notification period between 18 January 2023 and 23 February 2023 Pou Taunaha received 320 supporting submissions and 66 objecting to the proposal. Noting that Pou Taunaha notified this proposal at the same time as the proposals for Kororāreka, Te Kamo and Ngāmoko Stream, another 11 objecting submissions were received that didn't specify which proposal they were objecting to. Pou Taunaha may wish to consider or discount those submissions and they are not counted in the figures below.

Submission method	Supporting	Objecting	Total
Online form	290	55	345
Email or letter	30	11	41
	320	66	386

The supporting submissions are categorised below by theme. The Secretariat has commented on some of the objecting submissions. Full copies of all submissions are in the supporting information, including the 11 that were not specific about which proposal they object to.

Local engagement

This table has the location of all submitters based on volunteered information, which is collected to inform on the level of local community engagement. It does not indicate that they have a greater influence on the outcome of the proposal.

	Hawke's Bay Region	Rest of NZ	International	Unknown	Total
Supporting	140	161	3	16	320
Objecting	42	13	1	10	66
Total	182	174	4	26	386

² Land Information New Zealand

Affiliation field	The online submission form has a voluntary option for affiliation for the reference of Pou Taunaha when considering submissions.
Issues/notes	<p>One submitter who ticked 'I object' clearly supports the proposal based on the content of their submission, so it is counted as supporting. In the summary spreadsheet this submission has been moved to the correct category and identified for the reference of Pou Taunaha.</p> <p>Although one online submitter ticked the verification box, the objecting submission is clearly not for the proposal – row 56 of the online objecting submissions refers. Submissions, whether supporting or objecting, that do not provide any reasons do not meet the requirement of section 17 of the NZGB Act 2008.</p>

Summary of the 320 supporting submissions

The reasons provided in the supporting submissions are that the proposal would:

- remove a colonial/culturally inappropriate name that commemorates a person with no affiliation or connection to the awa,
- honour Te Tiriti o Waitangi partnership obligations,
- restore the original name of the awa, which has meaning and significance to the people who have traditionally lived in the area,
- restore the mana and mauri of the awa,
- support the ahi kā (*lit.* burning fires of occupation) of Kohupātiki Marae and reclaim their whakapapa,
- be a sign of respect and affirmation for the tangata whenua,
- be a way to normalise indigenous language and rights in everyday society,
- keep history alive for future generations and begin of a journey of restoration and reconnection,
- right the wrong that happened in 1975 when the name 'Clive' was given to the awa without consultation with the marae,
- be the first step to reclaiming tino rangatiratanga of mana whenua over the awa,
- acknowledge the original name of the awa, Ngaruroro Moko-tū-ā-raro ki Rangatira, as gifted by Ruawharo aboard the Takitimu waka,
- honour ancestors and preserve cultural heritage for future generations,
- enable parents to know that students studying the history of Aotearoa New Zealand are referencing maps that are accurate, and not scattered with names drawn out of a hat.

Several submitters also support restoring all original Māori place names.

Seven submitters did not provide reasons for their support, so they are not valid submissions.

Summary of the 66 objecting submissions and the Secretariat's comments

Reasons summarised	Secretariat comments
<p>Clive is easy to remember/pronounce/spell.</p> <p>The new name will confuse people and services trying to find the river. A delay in pronouncing or spelling the proposed name could be life-threatening in an emergency situation.</p>	<p>The alteration is unlikely to cause identification issues when communicating with emergency services as they mostly rely on digital technology to locate an emergency. Clive River will also be recorded as an alias in emergency services' databases.</p>

<p>Clive River has been in long term use.</p> <p>The majority of NZers recognise the name Clive and know its location.</p> <p>Many people know it as Clive River.</p> <p>The historic association with rowing (Georgina & Caroline Evers-Swindell) would be lost.</p>	<p>Pou Taunaha carefully considers long term use of names and the potential disruption a change might cause. However, it has a statutory function to collect and encourage the use of original Māori names. Mokotūāraro, which forms part of the original Māori name for the full length of the whole original awa has historical, traditional and cultural significance to mana whenua.</p> <p>Clive River was only named officially in 1975.</p> <p>Evers-Swindell Reserve on the shore of the awa³ will maintain the historic association to rowing.</p>
<p>The new name won't be used by the wider community. There will be negativity and animosity and it will divide the local community.</p> <p>It is too long, difficult to pronounce, too hard to remember, confusing for non-English speaking NZers, cumbersome in comparison, a concocted load of meaningless rubbish.</p>	<p>New names are initially resisted by some but are ultimately accepted and come into everyday use.</p>
<p>Māori names for rivers are very overrepresented.</p> <p>River names should reflect NZ's ethnic and cultural diversity.</p>	<p>52% of manga and awa names in the <i>New Zealand Gazetteer</i> are identified as Māori. A purpose of Pou Taunaha is to provide for appropriate recognition to be given to the cultural and heritage values associated with geographic features, whether the names are Māori or non-Māori.</p>
<p>Change should be voted on/decided by a referendum of locals.</p> <p>The name change doesn't represent the majority of the people who live in or near the township of Clive. The people wanting change aren't locals.</p>	<p>While it would be preferable if everyone in the community agreed to the best name for the awa, this isn't possible. Pou Taunaha is established to consider place names in terms of good naming practice, and to make the decisions.</p> <p>Mana whenua have made the proposal and it appears from the 320 supporting submissions that people do in fact support the change.</p>
<p>Doesn't want 'gross' river to reflect Māori culture.</p> <p>Money should be spent on improving the river instead of the name change.</p> <p>The state of the river is absolutely disgusting, and its mana badly affected.</p> <p>Wants the river cleaned up and the council to stop polluting it.</p>	<p>In its role as kaitiaki of the awa, the proposers have been actively involved in promoting and implementing a management plan to protect and restore it.</p> <p>The proposers wish to restore the mauri of the awa by returning part of the name that Ruawharo gifted.</p>
<p>Public money can be spent in more useful ways.</p> <p>Waste of time and money.</p>	<p>Pou Taunaha is funded by the Government to consider place names.</p> <p>Most documents that use official place names are maintained electronically so the cost to update is minimal. Pou Taunaha expects updates to place names on physical products such as road signs to be made during regular maintenance and replacement cycles, thus minimising/absorbing costs.</p>

³ Hastings District Council. [Evers-Swindell Reserve](#). Accessed 29 March 2023.

Name change already a given, wastes public's time asking for submissions.	Pou Taunaha considers all submissions and the most appropriate outcome, which does not preclude declining the proposal or assigning a different name.
Matches the township name. Should remain named after the town that it flows through/drains towards. The history of the name Clive is irrelevant to the current town or river. That Clive never visited NZ is irrelevant as neither did others who have places named after them. Clive wasn't a war criminal. Clive was a war hero – to alter something named after a war hero of the British Empire is blasphemy. NZ's colonial past can't be erased.	While it is important to consider historical events in their context, Robert Clive's actions as Governor of Bengal are regarded as being responsible for establishing the preconditions for the Bengal Famine of 1769-1770 in which three million people died ⁴ . Determining the most appropriate name for a feature is not rewriting history, and names affected by the decisions of Pou Taunaha remain discoverable in the <i>New Zealand Gazetteer</i> .
Doesn't understand the language, names and descriptions they are surrounded by.	Noted
Sets a precedent for changing other river names in Hawke's Bay. If you change the name of the river, the town will be next for the same reason.	Pou Taunaha considers every proposal it receives on its merits. Pou Taunaha has not received a proposal to alter the name of the town, but it would consider an alteration or alternative original Māori name if there is one.
Ancestors wouldn't have agreed to name change. Has long term family connections to the area.	Noted
Other names proposed: Three submitters proposed Clive River and Te Awa o Mokotūāraro as alternative names to provide balance. One submitter proposed the dual name Clive River / Te Awa o Mokotūāraro . Karamu was suggested by two submitters because it is easy to pronounce and most of the water comes from the Karamu catchment. One submitter suggested changing back to Ngaruroro River because a lot of rivers have two or three trunks. Others objected because it has always been Ngaruroro River and it should be left alone if it cannot go back to Ngaruroro River. Ngaruroro Mokotūāraro ki Rangatira was suggested as being the correct name.	There should be one name for one place. Alternative names are only assigned in exceptional circumstances. Major-General Robert Clive, after whom the associated town was named, had no association with the area. Therefore, the name Clive River is not considered to have equal significance. Also, Clive River has only been used for 48 years. The awa is sourced from both Karamu Stream and Raupare Stream. This would cause confusion as the awa is adjacent to another named Ngaruroro River. The proposal clarifies the contemporary effect of the separation of the awa, making it easier to identify the discrete awa in an emergency. Ngaruroro Moko-tū-ā-raro ki Rangatira is a collected name for the full length of the original awa before it was diverted.
Two submitters did not provide any reasons.	An objecting submitter must provide reasons for their objection, so they are not valid submissions.

⁴ National Portrait Gallery. [Robert Clive \(1725-1774\), Governor of Bengal](#). Accessed 29 March 2023.

Supporting information

1. Pou Taunaha report – Ngaruroro Moko-tū-ā-raro ki Rangatira – 2022-07-26
2. Pou Taunaha report – Te Awa o Mokotūāraro – 2022-12-02
3. Supporting submissions received via the online platform
4. Supporting submissions received via email
5. Objecting submissions received via the online platform
6. Objecting submissions received via email
7. Eleven miscellaneous objections (no proposal specified)