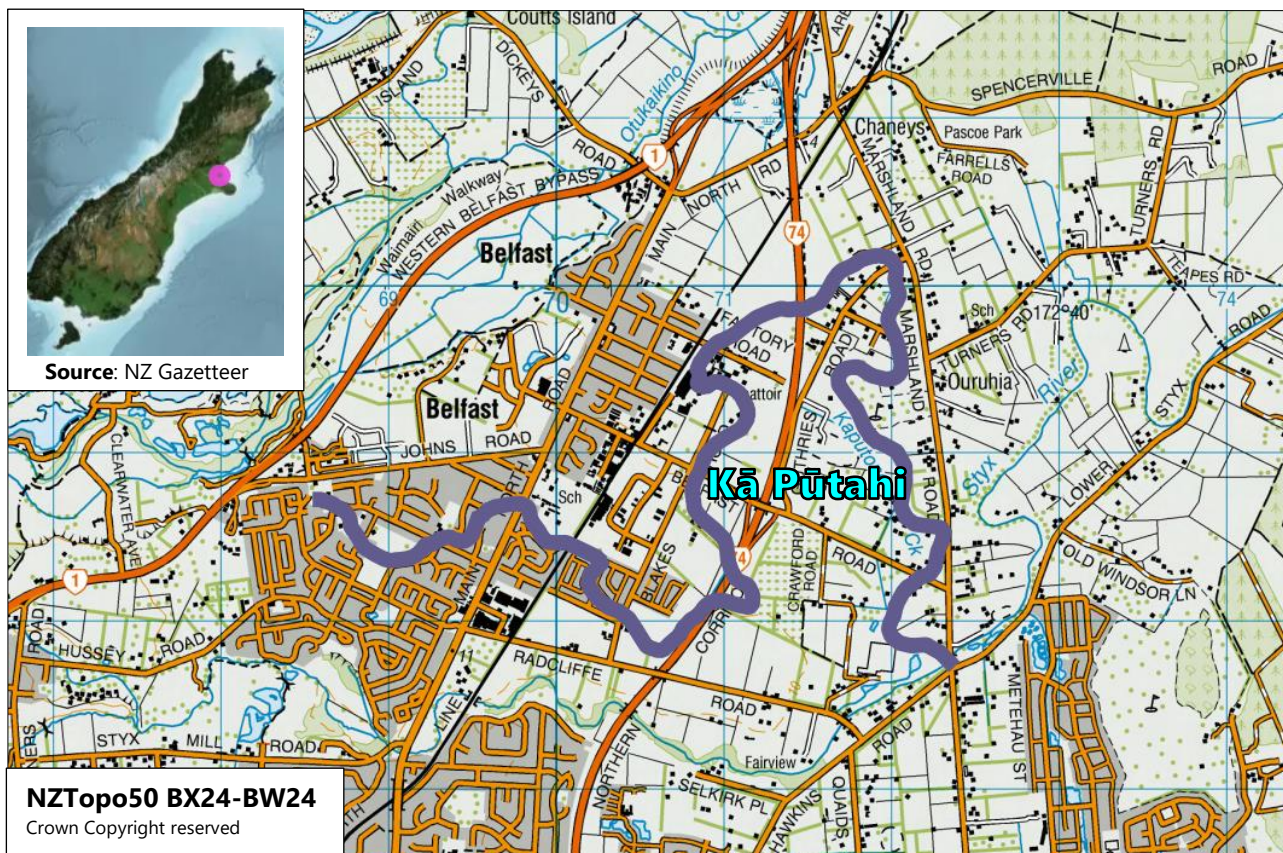


Submissions considered by the Board on 31 March 2025 for: Kā Pūtahi

[altered from Kaputone Creek]



Summary

At its 15 October 2024 hui the Board accepted a proposal from Christchurch City Council to alter the unofficial recorded¹ name Kaputone Creek to Kā Pūtahi as the official name of the stream that flows from the western side of residential Belfast into Styx River near Marshland in Christchurch.

During the public notification period between 15 November 2024 and 23 December 2024 the Board received four submissions supporting and one submission objecting to the proposal.

The supporting submitters note the importance of restoring the correct spelling of the name to reflect the cultural and ecological context. One supporting submitter felt that if a generic term is required, a Māori generic term would be preferable.

The objecting submitter says they do not oppose a name change in principle but suggested that the generic term 'Stream' be added and that the macrons be omitted as they are a distraction which do not aid pronunciation.

¹ A recorded place name is one that has appeared on at least two authoritative maps, charts or databases, which the Board has resolved to be: NZMS map, LINZ Archived Place Names Database, [Kā Huru Manu](#), and all hydrographic and bathymetric maps and charts published under a New Zealand hydrographic authority at the time of publication. It is not official.

Board's decision

At its 31 March 2025 hui the Board made the following decision on the submission:

The Board **considered** the submissions and their reasons on the proposal to alter the unofficial recorded place name Kaputone Creek to be officially **Kā Pūtahi**,

and

Rejected the objecting submission making an alternative proposal for 'Ka Putahi Stream' based on the reasons provided not outweighing the reasons that the Board accepted the proposal, being:

- The Board's functions to investigate and determine the priority of the discovery of a geographic feature, and to collect and encourage the use of original Māori names on official charts and maps.
- The Board's responsibility to examine cases of doubtful spelling.
- Evidence in *Kā Huru Manu* that Kā Pūtahi is the correct name of the stream.
- Ngāi Tūāhuriri and Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu supporting the proposal without a generic term.
- Not including a generic term being unlikely to impact on emergency services as they generally rely on digital technology to locate an emergency.

and

Noting prior advice from a Te Taura Whiri i Te Reo Māori licensed translator that Kā Pūtahi is the correct standardised orthography of the name, and that the macrons aid meaning and pronunciation. Also, noting that a generic geographic term was previously agreed by the Board as unnecessary.

and

Confirmed the Board's earlier decision to accept the proposal to alter the unofficial recorded name from Kaputone Creek to be officially Kā Pūtahi,

and

Will **report** the Board's decision to the Minister for Land Information **and request** the Minister to make the final determination on the proposal.

Background

Draft Board
minutes 15
October 2024
[abridged]

The Board agreed this was a simple matter to correct the historic misspelling. Accepting the proposal aligned with the Board's function to collect and encourage the use of original Māori place names on official charts and maps. The Board noted it is probably unlikely to create a risk to emergency services or local reporting given its use in Iwi Management Plans and by the local council.

Notification

Advice to
proposer

On 17 October 2024 the Secretariat advised the proposer, Christchurch City Council, that the Board would be publicly notifying the proposal for one month from 15 November 2024.

Advice to MPs	On 20 November 2024 the Secretariat advised the Members of Parliament for Waimakariri and Te Tai Tonga and all adjacent electorates, that the proposal was open for submissions until 23 December 2024.
Public notification including social media	The Board advertised the proposal: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • in the New Zealand Gazette, <i>Sunday Star Times</i>, and <i>The Star</i>, and • on the Toitū Te Whenua LINZ Consultation page, its Facebook page and the New Zealand Government's Consultation page.
Media	The Board circulated a media release on 15 November 2024, which was published on the Toitū Te Whenua - Land Information New Zealand website in English and te reo Māori.

Submissions

Summary	During the notification period between 15 November 2024 and 23 December 2024 the Board received five submissions, with four in support and one objecting to the proposal. Supporting submissions of note are highlighted below. Full copies of all submissions are in the supporting information.
Local engagement	All submitters on this proposal were from Christchurch. Submitters are asked to volunteer their location 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.
Affiliation field	The online submission form has a voluntary option for affiliation for the Board's reference when considering submissions. The submission spreadsheets in supporting information have affiliation information where it has been provided.

Secretariat's comments on the four supporting submissions

- The supporting submissions add weight to the Board's reasons for accepting the proposal.
- The submission received from the principal at Ōuruhia Model School advised that the school has renamed its classrooms to the names of waterways around their school, including Kā Pūtahi, on advice from Ngāi Tūāhuriri. Styx Living Laboratory Trust who shared that Kā Pūtahi is already in use in the community at Kā Pūtahi Community Orchard and Kā Pūtahi Confluence Park. Styx Living Laboratory Trust feel that if a generic term is required, a Māori name Te Maka o Kā Pūtahi would be preferable to maintaining the current misspelled name.
A licensed Te Taura Whiri i Te Reo Māori translator confirmed (see supporting information) that if using the Ngāi Tahu dialect for Manga (stream) the name could be Te Maka o Kā Pūtahi, if a generic term were to be added.

The objecting submission with Secretariat's comments

- The Kaputone Creek borders my property in Belfast where I have lived for 29 years. I do not object to the change of name per se but would suggest;
 - That the macrons be dispensed with - they are a distraction and most people would know how to pronounce the phrase without them.

- That the word "Stream" be added to the name. The name Ka Putahi" does not, by itself, convey what it is. Also "stream" sounds a bit better than "creek".
- I note that a previous name for the creek was "Kapuatohē" which was also the name given to a proposed hamlet in the area back in the early 1900's. Also is it proposed to rename Kaputone Place in Belfast to the new name?

In accepting the proposal in October 2024, the Board noted advice from a licensed Te Taura Whiri i Te Reo Māori translator that 'Kā Pūtahi' is the correct standardised orthography. Mana whenua, Ngāi Tūāhuriri, consider that as Kā Pūtahi holds its own mana no generic term is required, a view supported by Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu (TRONT), and which the Board agreed with. The Board Proposal Report noted the earlier documentary use of 'Kapuatohē', which former Board member Johannes Andersen considered to be correct. The submitter has yet to be responded to about his question on the road name changing too – this will be done when the Secretariat next writes to him, ie that the Board does not have jurisdiction over road names and that any change would be up to the council, though presumably it will wish to make the change since it proposed the corrected stream name in the first place.

Supporting information

1. Board Proposal Report for Kā Pūtahi – 2024-10-15
2. Objecting submission received via the online platform (1)
3. Supporting submissions received via the online platform (3)
4. Direct email supporting submission from Styx Living laboratory Trust – 2024-12-13
5. Email from licensed translator - orthographic advice - 2021-03-15