

# Submissions for: Mount Milne, Mount Tarewai, Mount Makere, Waitiri (peak) and Pikipari Pass

[Considered by the Board on 20 October 2021]

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## Summary

At its 22 July 2021 hui the Board accepted proposals for five features in the Darran Mountains to:

- Correct the position of Mount Milne and make official,
- Correct the position of Mount Tarewai and make official,
- Alter the spelling of an unofficial recorded place name Mount Mahere to an official place name Mount Makere and correct its position,
- Alter the spelling of an unofficial recorded place name Waitiri (peak) to an official place name Waitiri and correct its position,
- Assign a new official place name Pikipari Pass.

Maps showing each individual action are at the end of the report.

During public notification from 26 August 2021 to 30 September 2021 the Board received three submissions, each covering all five proposals.

Two supported all proposals, based on the incorrect positions causing confusion and posing a search and rescue risk. The third supported all proposals for the same reasons, except Pikipari Pass. Their reasons for objecting to Pikipari Pass are:

- the Board should not recognise names created by 'non-fluent Māori speakers',
- officially naming it creates a hazard as it is nearly impassable east to west.

The reasons given in the objecting submission for Pikipari Pass are not considered to outweigh the Board's reasons for accepting the proposal, and the place names may be proposed by anyone.

The objecting submitter also requests the Board review the orthography of all other Māori names in the Darran Mountains, subject to support from Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu (TRONT) and Ngāti Tama Manawhenua Ki Te Tau Ihu Trust.

There is no process for reviewing the orthography of older official names, noting almost all Māori names in the Darran Mountains are already official.

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## Secretariat recommendations

At its 20 October 2021 hui the Board resolved these recommendations.

- Recommendation 1 **Consider** the three supporting submissions for the four proposals to correct positions (Mount Milne, Mount Tarewai, Mount Makere, and Waitiri) and the spelling of two names (Mount Makere and Waitiri) in the Darran Mountains, **and** **Decide and notify** final determinations for the four that received only supporting submissions:
- **alter** the positions of the recorded place names **Mount Milne** and **Mount Tarewai**,
  - **alter** Mount Mahere to **Mount Makere** and alter its position,
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- **alter** Waitiri (peak) to **Whaitiri** and alter its position,

based on the reasons previously accepted by the Board, being:

- the Board's functions to investigate and determine the positions of features when making names official,
  - historical evidence confirming that the names are not in the positions originally intended, and that Mahere was proposed as Makere,
  - the mountaineering community considering that official maps are wrong, notwithstanding long-term use on the main topographic maps in their current locations (47 years),
  - value to emergency services accurately identifying the locations of the features,
  - confirmation from TRONT that the correct spelling of Waitiri is likely Whaitiri,
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**and**

Recommendation 2 **Consider** the three submissions on the proposal to assign a new official place name in long term use, **Pikipari Pass**,

**and**

**Reject** the objecting submission based on the reasons not outweighing the Board's reasons for originally accepting the proposal, being:

- long term use by the mountaineering community,
- previous use on an official map,
- a need to identify this feature with a name, noting the position of the official name Pakihaukea Pass is incorrectly depicted on the topo map at this pass, but will be corrected to its rightful pass further south,

**and** that place names in te reo Māori may be proposed by any person if the proposal meets the Board's minimum requirements,

**and**

**Confirm** the Board's earlier decision to accept the proposal to assign an official place name **Pikipari Pass**,

**and**

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

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## Background

Draft Board  
minutes 22 July  
2021 [abridged]

*The Board noted input from those who are well respected in the mountaineering community. The Board agreed to advise the New Zealand Alpine Club of the proposed changes noting an upcoming new edition of the Darran Mountains guidebook. The Board discussed the extent to which people might be confused should the positions be corrected, but as significant preparation and research was required before climbing in the Darran Mountains, climbers would be aware of any issues with the NZTopo50s beforehand. The Board noted that Tarewai is a significant Ngāi Tahu tupuna.*

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## Notification

Mana whenua views	TRONT confirmed the correct spelling of Waitiri was likely Waitiri but gave no further comment on the proposals.
Advice to MPs	The Secretariat advised the MPs for Southland, Te Tai Tonga, and all neighbouring electorates that submissions on the proposals were open until 30 September 2021.
Public notification including social media	<p>Board member Shaun Barnett advised the New Zealand Alpine Club that the proposals would be publicly notified, noting a new edition of the relevant mountaineering guide for the area would soon be published.</p> <p>The Board advertised the proposals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- in the <a href="#">New Zealand Gazette</a>,</li><li>- in the <i>Sunday Star Times</i> and <i>Southland Express</i>,</li><li>- on the Toitū Te Whenua <a href="#">Consultation</a> and <a href="#">Facebook</a>™ pages, and the Facebook post was later boosted to reach a wider audience,</li><li>- the New Zealand Government's <a href="#">Consultation</a> page.</li></ul> <p>A notice was submitted to Te Puni Kōkiri's (TPK) events' calendar <a href="#">Rauika</a>, but TPK has since confirmed this is no longer being published. Future notifications may continue through TPK's social media.</p> <p>Federated Mountain Clubs of New Zealand advertised the proposals in their media and social media channels, such as its <a href="#">September newsletter</a>.</p>

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## Media

The Board released a general media advisory for all proposed place names in Fiordland in English and te reo Māori on 31 August 2021. The release was [posted on the Toitū Te Whenua LINZ website](#) and [Scoop.co.nz](#) syndicated it.

An article published on 5 September 2021 in the *Southland Express* is in the supporting information.

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## Submissions

### Summary

During the notification period from 26 August 2021 to 30 September 2021 the Board received submissions from three people for the five proposals. All submitters support four place name proposals. But for Pikipari Pass two supported and one objected to the proposal.

All submitters advise they are climbers who frequent the Darran Mountains.

### Supporting submissions

All supporting submitters agree with the reasons why the Board accepted the proposals for Mount Milne, Mount Tarewai, Mount Makere and Waitiri, and for the two supporting submitters, Pikipari Pass.

### Objecting submission summarised and the Secretariat's comments

*Not appropriate for the Board to recognise Māori names created by non-fluent reo Māori speakers.*

Any person may propose a name whether English or te reo Māori, provided it meets the Board's criteria. An expert orthographic advisor had no concerns about the Māori name.

*Recognising this as a pass could create a hazard if people thought the range could be crossed directly from one side to the other, the western side is extremely steep. The accepted route from the west climbs to the saddle between Milne and Tarewai (as proposed) then traverses over Tarewai and down to the saddle (Pikipari Pass) between Tarewai and Makere where it's possible to descend to the east.*

Pikipari Pass was applied by mountaineers in 1957/58, has been used on an official map, and is named in the Darran Mountains climbing guide. There is evidence in the *New Zealand Alpine Club Journal* and online of people descending the range using the pass and using the name Pikipari Pass for it. This is on an approximately north-south basis, rather than the east-west basis that the objecting submitter is concerned about.

Officially assigning the name based on this existing long-term use, having also corrected the position of the existing official name Pakihaukea Pass, should decrease hazards to correct navigation, not increase them, once the Toitū Te Whenua NZTopo50 and official naming are corrected.

*Most if not all Māori names in this part of the Darran Mountains, including those in this consultation were named by Pākehā climbers in the 1930-1960 period after prominent Ngāi Tahu and Ngāti Tama rangatira. Recommends the NZGB consult with TRONT and Ngāti Tama Manawhenua Ki Te Tau Ihu Trust on a) correct orthography (use of macrons) and b) their view of the ongoing use of the names of their tūpuna on these places.*

Most Māori place names in the Darran Mountains are already official. There is no current process reviewing the orthography of official place names. The Board may wish to conduct this review based on its function to seek advice on the correct orthography of Māori names.

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## Supporting information

1. Board proposal report – Five proposals in Darran Mountains, Fiordland – 2021-07-22
2. Qualtrics spreadsheet with submissions from three submitters
3. Media article in *Southland Times* – 2021-09-05
4. Copy of Federated Mountain Clubs of New Zealand's September newsletter – 2021-09-21

Maps of proposed actions to correct, alter, and assign names in the Darran Mountains:



