

Submissions for:

Franz Joseph / Waiau [altered from Franz Josef/Waiiau] (for the village)

Franz Joseph Glacier / Kā Roimata-o-Hinehukatere [altered from Franz Josef Glacier/Kā Roimata o Hine Hukatere] (for the glacier)



## Summary

Based on the legal opinion that it can alter existing Treaty settlement place names in the Ngāi Tahu Claims Settlement Act 1998 under the NZGB Act 2008<sup>1</sup>, at its hui on 3 October 2023 the Board:

- accepted the proposal to alter the official dual name of the village Franz Josef/Waiiau to Franz Joseph / Waiau, and
- accepted its own proposal to alter the official dual name Franz Josef Glacier/Kā Roimata o Hine Hukatere to Franz Joseph Glacier / Kā Roimata-o-Hinehukatere, subject to Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu (TRONT) confirming the updated orthography of Kā Roimata-o-Hinehukatere.

On 26 October 2023 TRONT confirmed the orthography of Kā Roimata-o-Hinehukatere.

During the public notification period between 7 November 2023 and 12 December 2023 the Board received:

- 17 submissions supporting and 133 submissions objecting to the proposal for Franz Joseph / Waiau, and

<sup>1</sup> New Zealand Geographic Board (Ngā Pou Taunaha o Aotearoa) Act 2008

- 11 submissions supporting and 49 submissions objecting to the proposal for Franz Joseph Glacier / Kā Roimata-o-Hinehukatere.

Most submitters only provided their views on altering the 'Franz Josef' part of the dual names, with very few commenting on the Māori part. Many submitters seemed unaware that the current official names are dual names in the Ngāi Tahu Claims Settlement Act 1998.

The reasons in the supporting submissions for both proposals are that it is disrespectful to spell a person's name incorrectly and it would correct a historic misspelling.

The reasons in the objecting submissions are summarised on pages 7-8. Of note are those from Westland District Council and the Franz Josef Community Council who are concerned that:

- The proposals will have a wide-reaching financial and brand-recognition impact on businesses and organisations in the Westland District and the wider West Coast.
- It will impose unnecessary costs in an economic environment where communities are already under financial pressure because of the pandemic, flooding and road closures.
- The current spelling is clear, consistent and doesn't cause confusion. It has been in long term use, is well recognised and is part of the community's personal identity, culture and heritage.
- It is part of an internationally marketed brand that is woven into the fabric of 69 village-based business names, a change would have adverse effects on the tourism industry, causing confusion and loss of market share.

The Board's [Standard for New Zealand place names](#) (section 1.6) records 'Any alteration should balance the cultural and historical significance of the name against long-term use and the practical need for location identification'. Other objecting submitters noted that altering the spelling of 'Josef' to 'Joseph' wouldn't correct any significant wrongs or grievances, and that the current spelling:

- causes no cultural harm and isn't culturally inappropriate,
- doesn't impede safety and is otherwise clear for residents and tourists alike (there is no ambiguity about place), and
- follows a well-established local/common use.

Based on these reasons it is recommended that with the exception of those who made alternative proposals or otherwise didn't comment on the corrected orthography of the Māori part of the dual name for the glacier, the Board uphold the objecting submissions for both proposals.

## Secretariat recommendations

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- Recommendation 1 **Consider** the **17** supporting submissions and **133** submissions objecting to the proposal to alter the official dual name of the village Franz Josef/Waiau to **Franz Joseph / Waiau**,  
**and**  
**Reject** in terms of section 18(1)(b) of the NZGB Act 2008 the **nine** objecting submissions that made alternative proposals for Francis Joseph / Waiau, Waiau / Franz Josef, Waiau, Waiau / Franz Joseph, Frenz Joesith and yusef or Yosef,  
**and**  
**Uphold** in terms of section 18(1)(b) of the NZGB Act 2008 the remaining **124** objecting submissions, based on these reasons provided for not altering the existing official dual name **Franz Josef / Waiau** (noting the updated format with a space either side of the solidus) outweighing the reasons why the Board originally accepted the proposal:
- it wouldn't correct any significant wrongs or grievances,
  - it would impose unnecessary costs in an economic environment where communities are already under financial pressure because of the pandemic, flooding and road closures,
  - the current spelling is clear, consistent and doesn't cause confusion, it has been in long term use, is well recognised and is part of the community's personal identity, culture and heritage,
  - it is part of an internationally marketed brand that is woven into the fabric of 69 village-based business names, and
  - a change would have adverse effects on the tourism industry, causing confusion and loss of market share.
- and**  
Because the Board was not able to uphold all objections, **report** the Board's decision to retain the current official dual name **Franz Josef / Waiau** (with the updated format of a space either side of the solidus) to the Minister for Land Information **and request** the Minister to make the final determination on the proposal.
- Noting** that as agreed by the Board at its 26 April 2023 hui, the correct spelling of Franz Joseph has been acknowledged in the in the Gazetteer.
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**and**

- Recommendation 2 **Consider** the **11** supporting submissions and **49** submissions objecting to the proposal to alter the official dual name Franz Josef Glacier/Kā Roimata o Hine Hukatere to **Franz Joseph Glacier / Kā Roimata-o-Hinehukatere**,  
**and**  
**Reject** in terms of section 18(1)(b) of the NZGB Act 2008 the:
- **one** objecting submission that made an alternative proposal for Kā Roimata o Hine Hukatere, and
  - **47** objecting submissions that didn't comment on the Māori part of the dual name.
- and**  
**Uphold** in terms of section 18(1)(b) of the NZGB Act 2008 the **one** objecting submission that proposed the official dual name **Franz Josef Glacier / Kā Roimata-o-Hinehukatere**, based on:
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- Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu confirming the orthography of Kā Roimata-o-Hinehukatere,
  - consistency with recommendation 1 above for the spelling of Josef, **and** these reasons provided by the 47 objecting submitters, who only commented on altering 'Josef' to 'Joseph', outweighing the reasons the Board accepted for proposing the English part of the dual name alteration:
    - it wouldn't correct any significant wrongs or grievances,
    - it would impose unnecessary costs in an economic environment where communities are already under financial pressure because of the pandemic, flooding and road closures,
    - the current spelling is clear, consistent and doesn't cause confusion, it has been in long term use, is well recognised and is part of the community's personal identity, culture and heritage,
    - it is part of an internationally marketed brand that is woven into the fabric of 69 village-based business names, and
    - a change would have adverse effects on the tourism industry, causing confusion and loss of market share.

**and**

Because the Board was not able to uphold all objections, **report** the Board's decision to alter the official dual name from Franz Josef Glacier/Kā Roimata o Hine Hukatere to **Franz Josef Glacier / Kā Roimata-o-Hinehukatere and request** the Minister to make the final determination on the proposal.

**Noting** that as agreed by the Board at its 26 April 2023 hui, the correct spelling of Franz Joseph has been acknowledged in the in the Gazetteer.

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## Background

Draft Board minutes 3 October 2023 [abridged]

The Board is legally able to change these names under the New Zealand Geographic Board (Ngā Pou Taunaha o Aotearoa) Act 2008. An earlier legal opinion (provided under the New Zealand Geographic Board Act 1946) advised that the Board was unable to alter existing Treaty settlement place names. The new legal opinion has been discussed with TRONT in terms of the non-Māori part in dual place names, and they have also been advised that the Māori part of the dual names could be subject to submissions should the proposals be notified.

There is an opportunity to align the names with the standard convention that a space be applied to either side of the solidus (forward slash) in dual names. As some of the earliest dual names in the modern format, the Ngāi Tahu settlement names don't include the space. If Josef was to be changed to Joseph, it wouldn't impact emergency services as the word sounds the same.

TRONT hasn't yet confirmed that they are happy with the orthographic advice to alter the Māori part of the name from Kā Roimata o Hine Hukatere to Kā Roimata-o-Hinehukatere. Paulette Tamati-Elliffe advised that the standard orthographic convention is that hyphens are to be used in names of more than seven syllables, but she wasn't speaking on behalf of TRONT or the rūnanga in terms of their preference. TRONT currently publishes Kā Roimata-a-Hinehukatere in *Kā Huru Manu* with the [a] possessive and the Board wondered if this is a concern. The Board had published the name with the [a] possessive on its Tangata Whenua maps, which appeared to be the preference of the relevant rūnanga.

The Board agreed to the recommendations but with the public notification period to be one month, not three months, because most submissions are typically received at the

beginning of the notification period. The recommendations are also subject to TRONT confirming the updated orthography, which the Secretariat will clarify with TRONT.

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## Notification

Advice to mana  
whenua and  
Westland District  
Council of public  
notification

On 4 October 2023 the Secretariat advised TRONT that the Board had accepted the proposals subject to TRONT confirming the updated orthography of Kā Roimata-o-Hinehukatere.

On 26 October 2023 TRONT advised that having consulted with Te Rūnanga o Makaawio, it accepts the updated orthography.

Because the village is a populated place, on 30 October 2023 Westland District Council was advised that the Board would be publicly notifying the proposals.

On 14 November 2023 the Board's Secretary wrote directly to the Westland District Council's mayor inviting the council to make formal submissions on the two proposals.

Advice to MPs

Due to the pending results of the parliamentary election, it was decided not to send advice to electorate MPs.

Public notification  
including social  
media

The Board advertised the proposals:

- in the [New Zealand Gazette](#),
- in the *Sunday Star Times*, *Hokitika Guardian* and *West Coast Messenger*,
- on the Toitū Te Whenua LINZ<sup>2</sup> [Consultation](#) and [Facebook](#)<sup>TM</sup> pages, and
- on the New Zealand Government's [Consultation](#) page.

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## Media

The Board released a [media advisory](#) in te reo Māori and English, which was also posted on the Toitū Te Whenua LINZ website.

A number of media outlets including *The Press*, *Otago Daily Times*, *New Zealand Herald*, *stuff.co.nz*, *Greymouth Star*, *Hokitika Guardian* and *Westport News* published articles on the proposals – see Supporting information.

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## Submissions

Summary

During the notification period between 7 November 2023 and 12 December 2023 the Board received:

- 17 submissions supporting and 133 submissions objecting to the proposal for Franz Joseph / Waiau, and
- 11 submissions supporting and 49 submissions objecting to the proposal for Franz Joseph Glacier / Kā Roimata-o-Hinehukatere.

On 3 January 2024 the Board received a late submission supporting Franz Joseph Glacier / Kā Roimata-o-Hinehukatere. The Board's Chairperson agreed to accept the submission in terms of delegation #6<sup>3</sup>, and it is included in the total above.

The submissions are categorised below by theme. Most of the submitters only commented on altering the 'Franz Josef' part of the dual names. It appears that

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<sup>2</sup> Land Information New Zealand

<sup>3</sup> Delegation #6, Delegations schedule version 8 – 2019-04-11 (Objective ID: A3473630). The Board may delegate any of its powers, functions, and duties in terms of Schedule 1, clause 6 NZGB Act 2008.

many may not realise that both are currently officially dual named in the Ngāi Tahu Claims Settlement Act 1998.

Full copies of all submissions are in the Supporting information.

Local engagement

These tables have the location of all submitters based on volunteered information, which is collected to inform on the level of local community engagement. It isn't intended to indicate that they have a greater influence on the outcome of the proposals.

Franz Joseph / Waiau: approximately 12% of the village's population<sup>4</sup> of ~480 made a submission objecting to the proposal.

	Local	West Coast	Rest of NZ	International	Unknown	Total
Supporting	1	2	12	1	1	17
Objecting	57	30	40	0	6	133
Total	58	32	52	1	7	150

Franz Joseph Glacier / Kā Roimata-o-Hinehukatere

	Local	West Coast	Rest of NZ	International	Unknown	Total
Supporting	2	0	6	1	2	11
Objecting	22	7	15	0	5	49
Total	24	7	21	1	7	60

Affiliation field

The online submission form has a voluntary option for affiliation for the Board's reference when considering submissions.

Issues/notes

One submitter who ticked 'I support' for the Franz Joseph / Waiau proposal clearly objects to the proposal based on the content of their submission, so it is counted as an objecting submission. Another supporting submitter proposed an alternative name for the village, so in the summary spreadsheet these submissions have been moved to the correct category and identified for the Board's reference.

A submitter who ticked 'I object' for the Franz Joseph Glacier / Kā Roimata-o-Hinehukatere proposal clearly meant it for the Franz Joseph / Waiau proposal. It has also been moved and identified for the Board's reference.

**Summary of the 17 submissions supporting Franz Joseph / Waiau, and 11 submissions supporting Franz Joseph Glacier / Kā Roimata-o-Hinehukatere**

The reasons provided in the supporting submissions are that:

- It corrects an inaccurate historic spelling.
- 'Franz Joseph' is the correct spelling of the person it is named after.
- It is disrespectful to spell people's names incorrectly.
- Māori place names are being corrected, so European ones should be too.

<sup>4</sup> Accessed from <https://datafinder.stats.govt.nz/layer/115047-new-zealand-2022-estimated-resident-population-grid-250-metre-2023/> on 11 April 2024

- It acknowledges the original kōrero.
- It is expected that place names are spelled correctly on deposited plans.
- Respects and values local iwi and hapū – we should use their language and place names.

One of the supporting submitters provided a report on the multiple names that have been used over time for the glacier.

## **Summary of the 133 submissions objecting to Franz Joseph / Waiau and 49 submissions objecting to Franz Joseph Glacier / Kā Roimata-o-Hinehukatere**

Of note are the objecting submissions received from Westland District Council and the Franz Josef Community Council, both of which summarise many of the objecting submitters' concerns.

### **Westland District Council**

- The proposals will have a wide-reaching financial and brand-recognition impact on businesses and organisations in the Westland District and the wider West Coast. A name change would impose unnecessary costs in an economic environment where communities are already under financial pressure because of the pandemic, flooding and road closures.
- The council would need to put resources into making changes to its systems to reflect the name change, potentially adding a cost to ratepayers.
- The council doesn't have a stance on the proposed change to the Māori part of the dual name for the glacier.
- Acknowledges that there is a valid argument for changing the spelling to Franz Joseph, but the timing is poor.

### **Franz Josef Community Council**

- The current spelling is clear, consistent and doesn't cause confusion. It has been in long term use, is well recognised and is part of the community's personal identity, culture and heritage.
- It is part of an internationally marketed brand that is woven into the fabric of 69 village-based business names, a change would have adverse effects on the tourism industry, causing confusion and loss of market share.
- Acknowledges that the spelling is not as Haast intended.

### **Other reasons provided**

- The long-standing use of the current Franz Josef spelling:
  - causes no cultural harm and isn't culturally inappropriate,
  - doesn't impede safety and is otherwise clear for residents and tourists alike (there is no ambiguity about place),
  - doesn't correct any significant wrongs or grievances, and
  - follows well-established local/common use.

Also noted that a pertinent fix is that the orthography of the Māori part of the dual name would be standardised.

- Forcing the change to further direct attention to the problematic colonial history of New Zealand would be a poor choice.
- The name transcends the historic figure. It is unique and part of the identity of the town and the people who live there.
- Distances association with the power (Austro-Hungarian empire) that started WW1.
- The current name holds historical and cultural significance that should be preserved and embraced as part of the colonial story.

- It isn't important to update century-old spelling mistakes of conquering and colonising countries and individuals.
- The person that the features are named after has no direct connection with or visited the area.
- Language changes over time, and affiliation to a 19<sup>th</sup> century king no one remembers doesn't supersede the evolution that tradition has maintained.
- Could impact technical reports about the geological risks at the township, causing unnecessary confusion.
- It makes no difference to how the name is pronounced.
- Franz Joseph wouldn't be concerned that the spelling of his name has been changed.
- Franz Josef is the correct Austrian version of the name. Francis Joseph is the English version. Disrespects the Austrian people to Anglicise the name.
- May increase scams using 'Franz Josef' to tourists and ruin the reputations of local businesses.
- Would be inconsistent with the name of businesses, which will take time to change and create a financial burden for them.  
[Secretariat comment: businesses aren't required to change their names. If they are still using just Franz Josef, then they haven't changed to the dual name since 1998 and its doesn't appear to have impacted them.]
- Waste of taxpayers' money.
- Not consistent – many non-English to English translations have been made over time, doing the opposite is no different.
- The misspelling adds to the charm and importance of the place.
- The Board should have consulted with the Franz Josef business community and West Coast tourism and economic development agencies prior to wider public consultation.
- The money to change road signage could be put to better use.  
[Secretariat comment: Google Street View taken in September 2022 shows roadside signage is still not using the official dual names gazetted in 1998<sup>5</sup>].

These names were proposed as alternatives for the village:

- **Francis Joseph / Waiau** (1)
- **Waiau / Franz Josef** (1)
- **Waiau** (4)
- **Waiau / Franz Joseph** (1)
- **Frenz Joesith** (1)
- **yusef or Yosef** (1)

**Kā Roimata o Hine Hukatere** is an alternative name proposed for the glacier.

<sup>5</sup> Accessed on 17 April 2024 from [https://www.google.com/maps/@-43.393774,170.1796557,3a,48.5y,122.45h,80.21t/data=!3m6!1e1!3m4!1sVGP2LyEuJ4K23Z22XFe\\_cw!2e0!7i16384!8i8192?coh=205409&entry=ttu](https://www.google.com/maps/@-43.393774,170.1796557,3a,48.5y,122.45h,80.21t/data=!3m6!1e1!3m4!1sVGP2LyEuJ4K23Z22XFe_cw!2e0!7i16384!8i8192?coh=205409&entry=ttu)



## Supporting information

1. Board report – Franz Joseph / Waiau and Franz Joseph Glacier / Kā Roimata o Hine Hukatere – 2023-04-26
2. Board report for Franz Joseph / Waiau and Franz Joseph Glacier / Kā Roimata-o-Hinehukatere – 2023-10-03
3. Supporting submissions received via the online platform for Franz Joseph / Waiau
4. Supporting submissions received via email for Franz Joseph / Waiau
5. Objecting submissions received via the online platform for Franz Joseph / Waiau
6. Objecting submissions received via email for Franz Joseph / Waiau
7. Supporting submissions received via the online platform for Franz Joseph Glacier / Kā Roimata-o-Hinehukatere
8. Supporting submissions received via email for Franz Joseph Glacier / Kā Roimata-o-Hinehukatere
9. Objecting submissions received via the online platform for Franz Joseph Glacier / Kā Roimata-o-Hinehukatere
10. Objecting submissions received via email for Franz Joseph Glacier / Kā Roimata-o-Hinehukatere
11. Email correspondence with TRONT – 2023-10-26
12. Email to Westland District Council Chief Executive – 2023-10-30
13. Email to Westland District Council Mayor – 2023-11-14
14. Email from A Haanen – submission out of time accepted – 2024-04-15
15. Media articles
16. Google Street View showing roadside signage as at September 2022

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