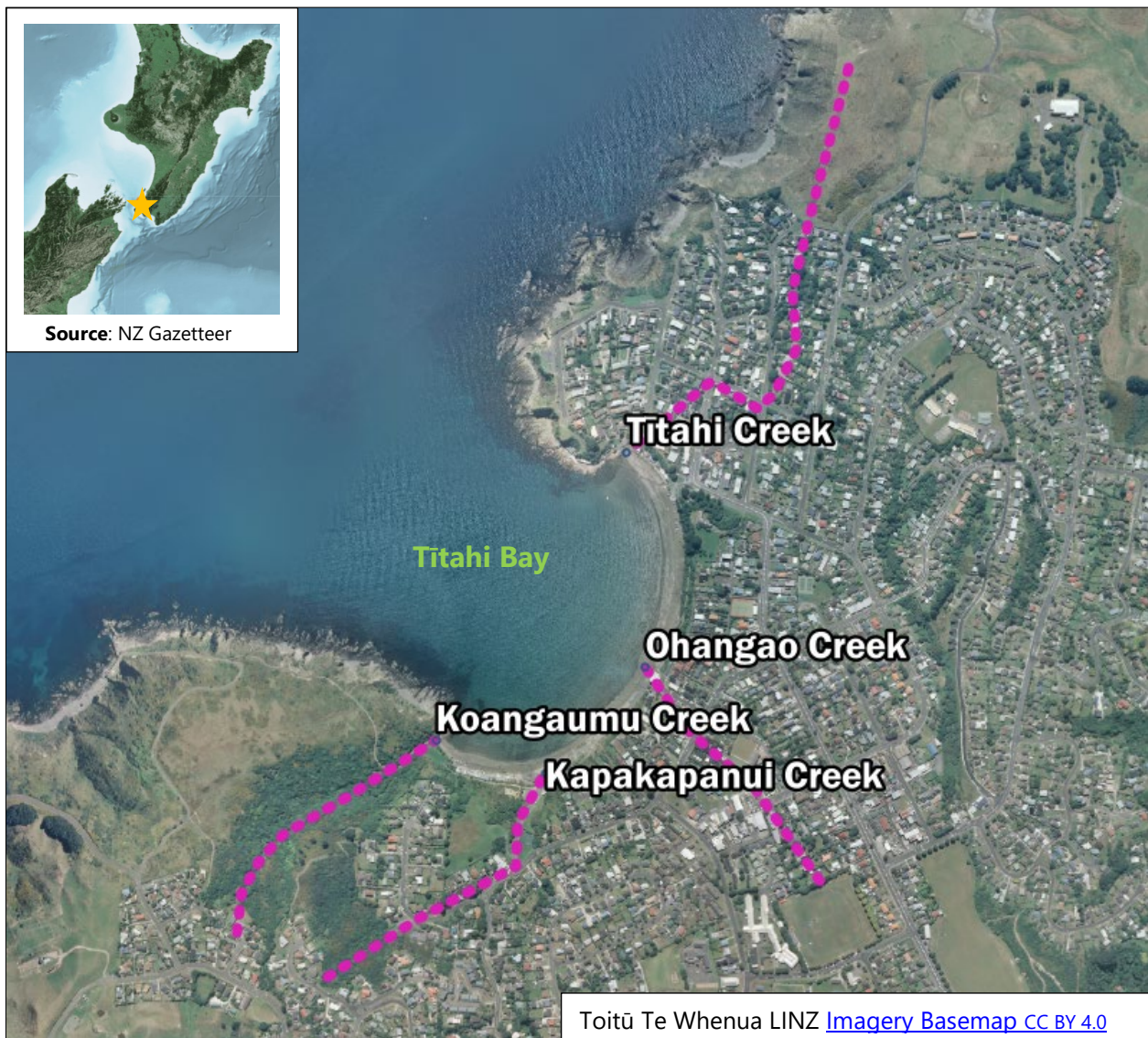


# Proposals considered by the Board on 20 October 2021 for: Kapakapanui Creek, Koangaumu Creek, Ohangao Creek and Titahi Creek

[new names]



## Summary

The proposals are to restore as official the original Māori names Kapakapanui Creek, Koangaumu Creek, Ohangao Creek and Titahi Creek to four relatively small creeks (all less than 1km long) that drain into Titahi Bay, approximately 20km north of Wellington.

One is an open watercourse within a council reserve. The other three are piped underground through residential areas and open where they pass through council parks and reserves.

The features are named on late 19<sup>th</sup> century survey plans but not on maps, probably because they would have been piped in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century to protect properties from flooding as Titahi Bay underwent residential growth.

Ngāti Toa Rangatira, who are mana whenua, support the proposals and have confirmed the orthographic advice.

## Secretariat recommendation

At its 20 October 2021 hui the Board resolved this recommendation.

**Accept** the proposals to **assign** as official **Koangaumu Creek, Kapakapanui Creek, Ohangao Creek** and **Titahi Creek** to four unnamed creeks that drain into Titahi Bay, north of Wellington, based on:

- the Board's function to encourage the use of original Māori place names,
- expert advice that the names are orthographically correct,
- naming them being useful to identify the features, and
- Ngāti Toa Rangatira's support for the proposals,

**and**

**Notify** as proposals to assign for one month.

## Secretariat assessment and advice

### The proposals

The proposals are to restore as official the original Māori names Kapakapanui Creek, Koangaumu Creek, Ohangao Creek and Titahi Creek to four natural watercourses that drain into Titahi Bay in Porirua, north of Wellington.

### Place names shown on plans and maps

Koangaumu Creek, Ohangao Creek and Titahi Creek are recorded on late 19<sup>th</sup> century survey plans. Kapakapanui Creek is recorded on an 1873 surveyor's plan provided by the proposer.

The features are not named on maps probably because they were piped underground in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century to protect properties from flooding as Titahi Bay underwent residential growth.

Plan/map	Date	Name
ML 605	1881	Koangaumu Ck
DP 1141	1897	Ohangao CK
DP 1072	1899	Titahi Creek

### Location and extent of the features, generic term and geographic feature type

The four creeks are relatively small (all less than 1km long).

Kapakapanui Creek, Ohangao Creek and Titahi Creek are open watercourses where they pass through council parks and reserves and are piped underground through residential areas. Koangaumu Creek is an open watercourse that flows through Stuart Park.

The generic term 'Creek' accurately describes the features. The equivalent Māori generic term 'Kōawa' was considered (see the translator's advice below) but it isn't a widely known term for a creek.

### [New Zealand Gazetteer](#)

The features are not named in the Gazetteer.

**associated names and duplication** [Kapakapanui](#) (hill) and [Kapakapanui Stream](#) are approximately 30km northeast of the proposal for Kapakapanui Creek. Although they are in the same general area, Kapakapanui Stream's different generic term distinguishes it from the proposal for Kapakapanui Creek so there is unlikely to be confusion between the two.

[Titahi Bay](#) (suburb) and [Titahi Bay](#) (bay) are geographically associated with the proposal for Titahi Creek. Titahi is partly duplicated in [Titahi Stream](#), which is northeast of Kaikohe in Northland and too far distant to cause confusion.

No features in the Board's jurisdiction are named Koangaumu or Ohangao.

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**Research, history and references to the feature** The Board's archives record that Koangaumu and Titahi are the names of settlements that Ngāti Toa inherited from Ngāti Ira<sup>1</sup>.

Fletcher<sup>2</sup> records:

- KAPAKAPA NUI: An ancient canoe
- KOANGA UMU: A South Island ancestor
- TITAHU: A bay near Porirua. A son of Rahiri. Ngati-Toa genealogy

Ngāti Toa Rangatira, who are mana whenua, have not been able to provide any historical or traditional background on the names.

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**Consultation with iwi and others** Ngāti Toa Rangatira support the proposals and have confirmed the orthographic advice provided. Porirua City Council will have the opportunity to provide their views when the proposal is publicly notified.

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**Advice on orthography<sup>3</sup>** A Te Taura Whiri i te Reo Māori licensed translator has advised that:

- Kapakapanui, Koangaumu, Ohangao and Titahi are orthographically correct,
- the commonly used Māori word for creek is 'kōawa'. The correct use would be Kōawa o Kapakapanui, Kōawa o Koangaumu, Kōawa o Ohangao and Kōawa o Titahi.

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**Relevant sections from the [NZGB Act 2008](#) and the [Standard for NZ place names](#)** Section 1.3(g) in the *Standard* records that minor features or places of low importance should not be named.

While the creeks are relatively minor features, the proposer wishes to restore and make official original Māori place names – sections 3(e) and 11(1)(e) & (f) of the NZGB Act 2008 refer.

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**Concerns or issues for emergency services** Naming the creeks means they could be easily identified in an emergency.

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<sup>1</sup> Board correspondence, volume 24, p. 284. June 1949.

<sup>2</sup> Waikato University, [Index of Māori Names](#). Accessed 21 September 2021.

<sup>3</sup> The conventions and rules of how to write a language

## **Supporting information**

1. Proposal for Kapakapanui Creek
2. Proposal for Koangaumu Creek
3. Proposal for Ohangao Creek
4. Proposal for Titahi Creek
5. Email from Ngāti Toa Rangatira – consultation – 2021-08-04
6. Email from Te Haumihiata Mason – orthographic advice – 2021-08-04 / 2021-09-06