

From: [Resource Management | Te Atiawa](#)
To: [Louise Walker-5004](#)
Cc: [Te Atiawa o Te Waka a Maui](#)
Subject: Proposed Marlborough Environment Plan - Hearing, 8 October 2018 - Block 9 - Topic 13; Topic name: Resource Quality (Water) - Volume 3, Appendix 5: An applicable description of "Maori Cultural Values"
Date: Tuesday, 9 October 2018 2:55:39 p.m.
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
Importance: High

Kia ora ano Louise

You may recall that the Panel asked me for input on this matter, prompted by the MEP Appendix 5 panel below, in the context of *Values* for the Wairau Lagoon.

Now that I've turned my mind to it, some related issues emerge that will also need further consideration by the Panel:

1. The panel below simply offers the term *Cultural*. Maori do not hold the concept of Culture prisoner. There are also European/Pakeha cultural values to be considered, whether or not the MEP attempts to give an expression of those factors. The term anticipated for this purpose is *Maori Cultural Values*;
2. When I look at the summary definition available to me, from the earlier evidence provided by Te Atiawa, I note that this summary definition should be provided with attribution, since it apparently was shaped by Landcare Research (see below); and
3. In the absence of an Iwi/Maori conceived definition, will this summary definition be seen as acceptable by Marlborough's Tangata Whenua Iwi?

So, the summary, slightly amended, definition that is being offered by Te Atiawa is:

Maori Cultural Values: Any natural attribute, area, place, or thing (tangible or intangible) which is of physical, economic, social, cultural, historic, and/or spiritual significance to tangata whenua'.

You can see, above (in contrast to below) that I've suggested the term 'resource' should, ideally, be changed to 'attribute'. Resource is an inappropriate Euro-centric term in this context, as the suite of atua that embrace nature are part of Maori whakapapa; they are ancestors and their status should not be lowered to that of a 'resource'. That said, there may be a scope issue with that change?

Maybe the term 'economic' is acceptable in this context, in the contemporary expression of things, but, I struggle with it here; there is discord with tikanga.

Finally, in the absence of anything else being available, I'm sure that the eight Marlborough Tangata Whenua Iwi would prefer this summary definition as opposed to no explanation.

Anyhow, something for the Panel to consider.

Happy to korero.

Nga mihi nui

Shappy.

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52	Wairau Lagoon	<p>Fish Habitat Inanga, yelloweye mullet, shortfin eel and longfin eel habitat.</p> <p>Bird Habitat Terns, shags, banded dotterel, royal spoonbill, and migrant waders. Most diverse number of bird species in Marlborough. Nationally significant area.</p> <p>Riparian Habitat Wetland ecosystems.</p> <p>Recreation Gamebird hunting. Kayaking, kite surfing, fishing, whitebaiting and walking.</p> <p>Cultural</p>	AE, FS, F, C
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'[Maori] Cultural Values' - Any natural resource, area, place, or thing (tangible or intangible) which is of physical, economic, social, cultural, historic, and/or spiritual significance to tangata whenua'.

(Explanation: Such relationships were embedded in **Maori** cosmology, attitudes and **beliefs**; those important values of iwi that need to be taken into account.)

<https://www.landcareresearch.co.nz/science/living/indigenous-knowledge/land-use/values>

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