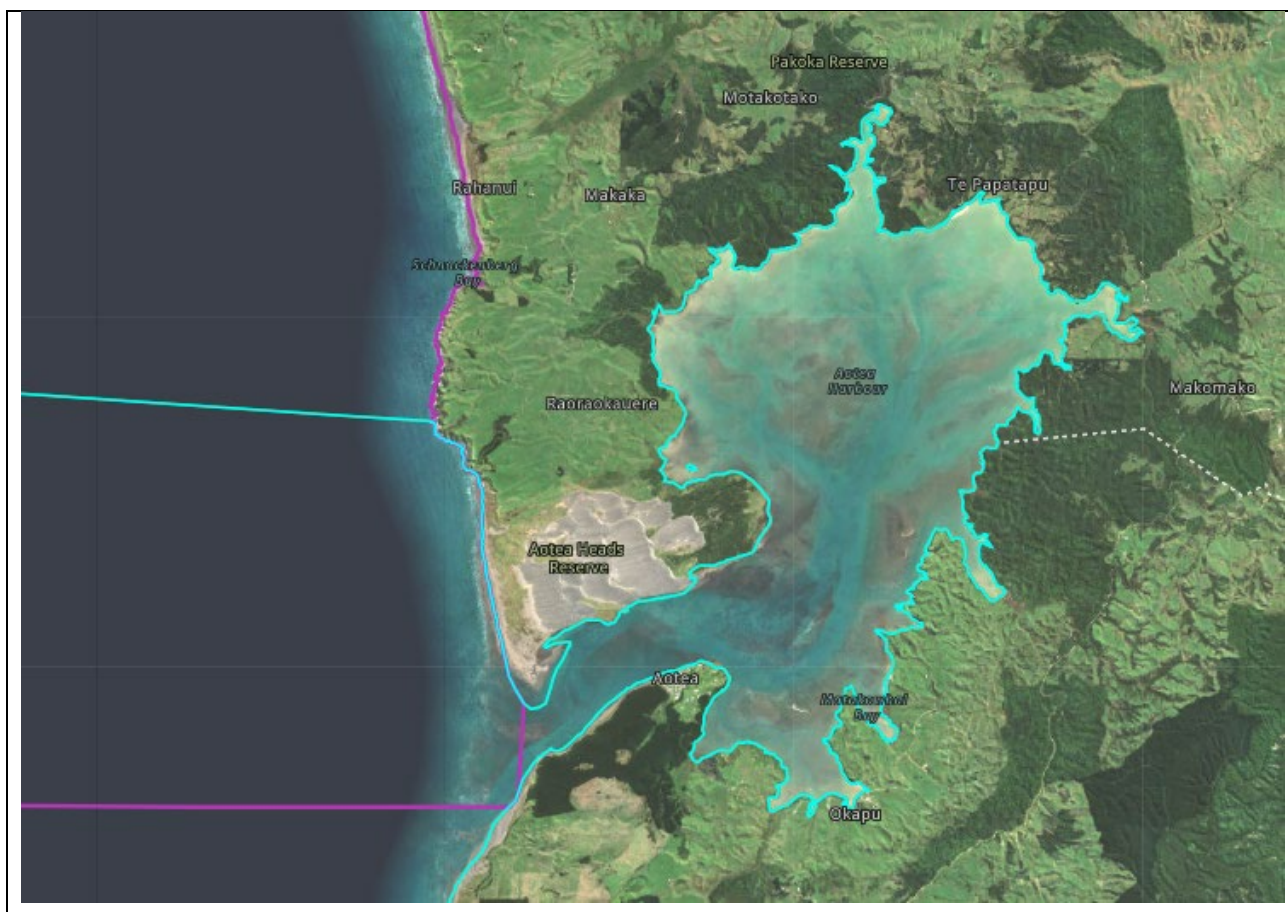


## MACA Aotea Harbour Hearing Overview

### 1. Hearing Area

The Aotea Harbour Hearing was proposed by Ngāti Te Wehi and allocated by Churchman J in October 2022.<sup>1</sup> The hearing will deal with MACA application areas within Aotea Harbour.

The hearing boundary is illustrated on the map from [Kōrero Takutai](#) below. The hearing boundary across the harbour mouth has been defined by Ngāti Whakamarurangi's boundary (MAC-01-04-010)<sup>2</sup>. This is shown by a purple line. Ngāti Te Wehi's application area is shown by the light blue line.



Map 1 – Aotea Harbour<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> [Minute \(No. 2\) of Churchman J, dated 4 October 2022](#) [Ngati te Wehi CIV-2017-419-081]

<sup>2</sup> [Minute of Churchman J dated 7 March 2024 re Aotea Harbour](#)

<sup>3</sup> Extracted from [Kōrero Takutai](#), used under [Te Arawhiti](#) CC License

## 2. Dates and venue

The Stage 1 (CMT) hearing took place over two weeks starting 17 June 2024 at Hamilton High Court. Andrew J’s reserved CMT decision<sup>4</sup> was issued on 20 November 2024.

A Stage 2 hearing to determine Wahi Tapu and final orders was scheduled for 17 November 2025. Following the CMT Amendment Act passing, the CMT decision is nullified<sup>5</sup>. On 5 November, Andrew J vacated the Stage Two hearing and directed submissions from parties regarding next steps<sup>6</sup>.

## 3. Participants

| CIV                       | Applicant Group                        | Lead Counsel |
|---------------------------|--|--------------|
| CIV-2017-419-081          | Ngāti Te Wehi                          | D Stone      |
| CIV-2017-419-84           | Waikato-Tainui                         | J Ferguson   |
|                           |  |              |
| <b>Interested Parties</b> |  |              |
| CIV-2017-404-575          | Ngaati Mahuta                          | C Ratapu     |
| CIV-2017-485-207          | Ngāti Apakura                          | T Bennion    |
|                           | Ngāti Whakamarurangi and Ngāti Mahanga | R Siciliano  |
|                           | Waikato District Council               |              |
|                           | Waikato Regional Council               |              |
|                           | Attorney General                       |              |

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<sup>4</sup> [PAPA & ORS \[2024\] NZHC 3610 \[29 November 2024\]](#)

<sup>5</sup> See [Schedule 1AA](#), Marine and Coastal Area (Takutai Moana) Act 2011

<sup>6</sup> [Minute of Andrew J dated 4 November 2025 - Aotea Harbour Stage Two vacated](#)

#### 4. Hearing Timetable

| Item   | Due dates        |
|--|------------------|
| Applicants file their evidence (25 weeks before hearing)   | 25 December 2023 |
| Interested parties, other than the Attorney-General, file their evidence (16 weeks before hearing)                     | 26 February 2024 |
| Submissions on Pūkenga appointment (16 weeks before hearing)   | 26 February 2024 |
| Attorney-General files evidence (12 weeks before hearing)  | 25 March 2024    |
| Applicants' evidence in reply to be filed (nine weeks before hearing)  | 15 April 2024    |
| Close of pleadings date (seven weeks before hearing)   | 29 April 2024    |
| Applicants' file opening submissions, statement of agreed facts, and bundles of authorities (six weeks before hearing) | 6 May 2024       |
| Interested parties' file submissions and bundles of authorities (four and a half weeks before hearing)                 | 15 May 2024      |
| Attorney-General files submissions and bundles of authorities (three weeks before hearing)                             | 27 May 2024      |
| Stage 1 Hearing Begins   | 17 June 2024     |