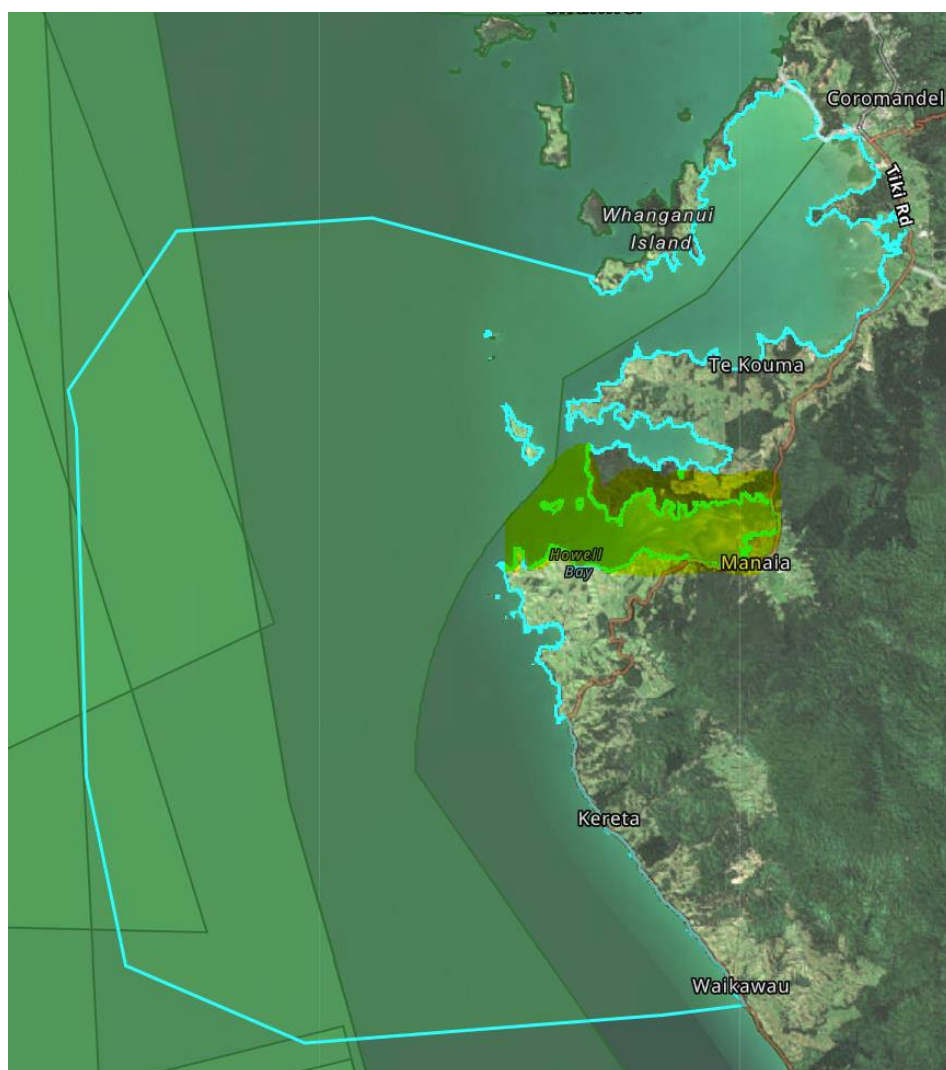


MACA Manaia Harbour Hearing Overview

1. Hearing Area

The Manaia Harbour Hearing was proposed by Ngāti Pūkenga in May 2023. Ngāti Pūkenga has discrete application areas in Whangārei, Western Coromandel and Bay of Plenty. The Western Coromandel portion of their application is shown in the map below as a light blue line. Initially, Ngāti Pūkenga sought to have that portion of their application determined in a single hearing.

A case management conference was convened¹ in December 2023 to develop the proposal. A reduced hearing area involving just Manaia Harbour and its approaches (highlighted in yellow below) was broadly supported. Following the conference, a three-week hearing for this area was allocated by Churchman J.²



Manaia Harbour hearing area³

¹ [Minute of Churchman J dated 28 July 2023](#) [CMCs 2023]

² [Minute of Churchman J dated 12 December 2023](#) [Ngati Pūkenga - Manaia Harbour]

³ From Memorandum of Counsel for Ngāti Pūkenga dated 27 November 2023. A boundary with laterals defined by coordinates has not yet been confirmed.

2. Dates and venue

The hearing was scheduled to run for three weeks starting 11 May 2026 at Hamilton High Court.

Following the passing of the Marine and Coastal Area (Takutai Moana) (Customary Marine Title) Amendment Act 2025 on 24 October 2025, applicants sought a delay for the hearing. Churchman J vacated the hearing and adjourned proceedings to the Hamilton CMC on 27 August 2026. No new hearing date has been scheduled.⁴

3. Participants

Applicant CIV	Applicant Group	Lead Counsel
CIV-2017-485-250	Ngati Pukenga	T H Bennion, E A Whiley
CIV-2017-404-528	Ngati Hako	C B Hirschfeld, B Tupara
Interested Parties	Attorney General	R Roff
	Thames-Coromandel District Council	A Green, E Greensmith-West
	Waikato Regional Council	P Beverley
	Seafood Industry Representatives	B A Scott
	Landowners Coalition Incorporated	B E Morten

These 5 Crown-Engagement applications overlap with the hearing area and may join as interested parties:

- Ngāti Maru MAC-01-03-006
- Ngaati Whanaunga MAC-01-01-091
- Ngāati Tamaoho MAC-01-03-010
- Hauraki Māori Trust Board MAC-01-03-001
- Ngāti Tamatera MAC-01-03-011

⁴ [Minute of Churchman J dated 13 November 2025](#)

4. Hearing Timetable⁵

Item	Due dates
Applicants file their evidence (25 weeks before hearing)	14 November 2026
Interested parties, other than the Attorney-General, file their evidence (16 weeks before hearing)	16 January 2026
Attorney-General files evidence (12 weeks before hearing)	13 February 2026
Applicants' evidence in reply to be filed (nine weeks before hearing)	6 March 2026
Close of pleadings date (seven weeks before hearing)	20 March 2026
Applicants' file opening submissions, statement of agreed facts, and bundles of authorities (six weeks before hearing)	27 March 2026
Interested parties' file submissions and bundles of authorities (four and a half weeks before hearing)	14 April 2026
Attorney-General files submissions and bundles of authorities (three weeks before hearing)	1 May 2025
Stage 1 Hearing Begins	11 May 2026

⁵ [Minute of Churchman J dated 12 December 2023](#) [Ngati Pūkenga - Manaia Harbour]