

Te pakanga roa mō te Awa

- 1840** My people sign Te Tiriti o Waitangi, guaranteeing their rangatiratanga (sovereignty) over their lands, homes and all tangible and intangible taonga. The Crown is responsible for kāwanatanga (government) and protecting their rights.
- 1880** Pā tuna are destroyed as the Government clear them from me, to enable free navigation by steamers, as well as gold and coal prospectors.
- 1886-1888** Over 501 of my people petition the Government to stop steamers destroying pā tuna and utu piharau.
- 1895-1896** My people take a claim to the Supreme Court over customary fishing rights. The Whanganui River Trust Board (an agency of the Crown) is established, giving control of my waters to Pākehā.
- 1918** The Whanganui River Trust Board seeks legal advice for the removal of gravel from me, and declares that my people must not construct new pā tuna in me.
- 1931-1937** My people raise funds for the legal battle, to protect their customary rights. Te Rama Whanarere, Te Kiira Peina, Hekenui Whakarake, Titi Tihu and others lodge a petition to challenge my ownership. Titi Tihu and Hikaia Amohia formally object to the introduction of trout by the Acclimatisation Authority.
- 1960** My headwaters are diverted into Lake Rotoaira, then on into Lake Taupō and the Waikato catchment for hydroelectric power generation.
- 1962** The Court of Appeal finds that the Coal-mines Amendment Act 1903 conveyed my riverbed to the Crown. This decision closes all legal avenues for my people to pursue ownership of my riverbed.
- 1977-1981** My people petition the Queen concerning their rights to me. Prime Minister Holyoake advises the proper place for the petition is the House of Representatives. Minister of Māori Affairs, Ben Couch, recommends to Parliament to take no action on the petition.
- 1988-1989** The Whanganui River Māori Trust Board is established to negotiate all outstanding claims relating to the customary rights of my people. Te Tira Hoe Waka begins, an annual two week pilgrimage that revisits the sacred sites and marae along me.
- 1991-1993** Negotiations with the Crown address a framework for my ownership. Negotiations are suspended and the Crown refuses to sign the proposed framework.
- 1994** The Waitangi Tribunal hears evidence as part of my people's claim to my ownership (Wai 167).
- 1995** My people occupy Pākaitore for 80 days, and then commemorate the event each year.
- 1997** Judge Andrew Becroft recognises aboriginal and Te Tiriti o Waitangi rights to customary fisheries.
- 1999** The Waitangi Tribunal releases the Whanganui River Report and confirms that Te Tiriti o Waitangi guarantees my people's rangatiratanga.
- 2000** Ngā Tāngata Tiaki are appointed as the iwi executive to begin rebuilding my people's infrastructure. Hui are held with Ngāti Tūwharetoa, Ngāti Rangī and Whanganui about returning my waterways to their natural flow. A Whanganui River Claim negotiation team is formed.
- 2001** The Crown, Whanganui District Council and my people vest Pākaitore as a historic reserve. Genesis apply to the Regional District Council for a 35 year resource consent to continue to divert my headwaters for power generation.
- 2003** A terms of negotiation document was signed by the Crown and my people at Matahiwi Marae. My people oppose the application of Genesis, to continue to divert my headwaters in the environment court.
- 2004** Te Awa Tupua negotiating committee commit to signing off the Agreement in Principle.
- 2014** Ruruku Whakatupua, the Deed of Settlement, is signed at Rānana Marae.
- 2017** Royal assent is given to Te Awa Tupua (Whanganui River Claims Settlement) Act. This provides for a new framework for restoring my health and well-being, underpinned by Tupua te Kawa – innate values that recognise my relationship with my people.