

*******MEDIA RELEASE*******

Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Hinemanu me Ngāti Paki is excited to announce the opening of our Freshwater Science Laboratory at Winiata Marae, SH1 8197, Taihape.

HAERE MAI



WINIATA MARAE FRESH WATER SCIENCE LAB GRAND OPENING 16 - 17 MAY 2025

FRIDAY 16TH MAY

5.30am	Karakia - Māori
	Whakamoemiti / Mihimihi
7.30am	Parakuihi
9.00am	Purpose & LAB journey presentation
9.30am	Hapū and invited guest water testing
12.00pm	Kai o te rā nui
12.30pm	Fresh water management plan launch
	Kura Visits
3.00pm	Rūnanga website launch

SATURDAY 17TH MAY

7.30am	Parakuihi
8.30am	Water testing results - LAB
10.00am	Pōwhiri - Community / Visitors
10.30am	Static freshwater management stands open till 4pm
	LAB - visits
12.30pm	Purpose & LAB journey presentation
	Panel discussion and open floor for questions
4.00pm	Karakia

Copy or click the link below for more information if you wish to attend

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1uUiiKdB0jY2DhTQZE5dzyToqiLMhJC /view?usp=drive_link](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1uUiiKdB0jY2DhTQZE5dzyToqiLMhJC/view?usp=drive_link)

This freshwater science laboratory is the **first in the world to be based on a marae**.

Made possible through our partnership with the University of Auckland, New Zealand, the lab will amalgamate the best of both mātauranga Māori and western scientific methodologies in order to protect wai Māori (freshwater) and build the capacity and capability of iwi freshwater practitioners, or “Kaitiaki Rangers”, of all ages.

Our team of experts will utilise the facilities to: educate and train others; test and then provide information; to provide a platform for socialisation of iwi, hapū and community knowledge; to support the ongoing monitoring and freshwater management strategies of our hapū, iwi and community into the future; in our quest for pristine water quality within our rohe and best practise management strategies of wai Māori.

The following main disciplines will be available immediately after the opening, but we envision the list will expand with time.

Laboratory Testing Ability <ul style="list-style-type: none">• E coli• Nitrate• Phosphate• eDNA• Micro view analysis• Native exploration	Reporting and Socialisation <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Real time monitoring of wai• Mauri monitoring• Socialisation for iwi, hapū and community knowledge• Iwi data to support local decision making
Mātauranga tuku iho Dissemination of intergenerational knowledge <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Whakapapa• Mauri• Tapu• Taonga/Kaitiaki• Kaitiakitanga	Introduction to freshwater management <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Water gathering• Lab testing process• Introduction to laboratory procedures• Reading test results• Environmental planning and information• Flora and fauna• Ongoing monitoring and testing

Many thanks to University of Auckland, Downers, Mana Mo Te Taiao MFE, Winiata Marae, Kaumātua and Whānau of Ngāti Hinemanu and Ngāti Paki

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