

# Estuarine Condition Ngai Tahu ki Murihiku Perspectives

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# Talk Overview

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- What is an estuary?
- Values
- Ki uta ki tai
- Expectations
- Our concerns
- Are our expectations being met?



# What is an estuary?

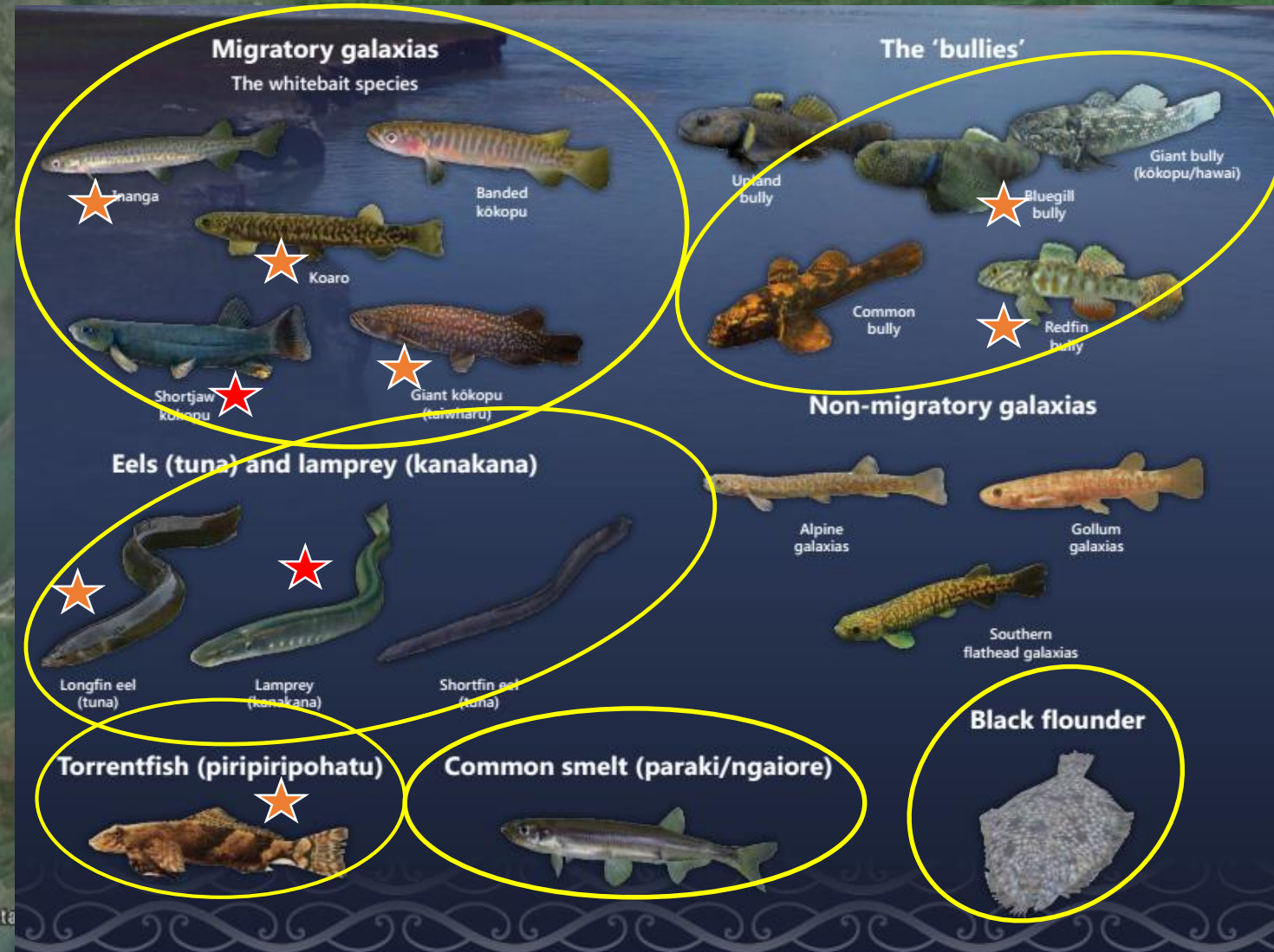
- Ngutuawa, wahapū



At risk, declining



Threatened, nationally vulnerable





# What is an estuary?

O Te Wai not only includes freshwater elements of water but extends to include O Te Moana – the sea, and the inherent connection between these two waters. Upstream effects in our river catchments influence the life supporting capacity of our estuarine systems and the waters of our seaward coastal environment. Te Tangi a Taurira 2008





# What is an estuary?

## Freshwater

- all waters of rivers, streams, lakes, ponds, lagoons, wetlands, impoundments, canals, channels, watercourses, or other bodies of water whether naturally occurring or artificially made
- all waters of estuaries or coastal lagoons
- all other fresh or estuarine waters where freshwater fish indigenous to or introduced into New Zealand are found
- all waters in the mouth of every river or stream, and the mouth of every river and stream shall be deemed to include every outlet thereof and the seashore between those outlets and the waters of the sea or lying within a distance of 500 metres from any place where at low tide the waters of a river or stream meet the waters of the sea.



# What is an estuary?

Tūpuna

Kainga

Urupā

Navigation & Connections

Relationships

Association

Connections

Cultural Identity

Taonga

Waahi tapu

Ōue

Omaui

Mokomoko





# What is an estuary?



## Mahinga kai

- Resource harvested
- Ability to access the resource
- Sites where gathering occurs
- Using the resource
- Good health of the resource
- Environmental indicator

Relationships  
Association  
Connections  
Cultural Identity  
Taonga  
Waahi tapu



# What is an estuary?

- Cultural
- Environmental
- Social, incl Recreational & Health
- Economic



## Social:

- Life satisfaction
- Health
- Social connectedness
- Safety
- Knowledge & skills
- Paid work
- Standard of living
- Civil & political rights
- Cultural identity
- Leisure & recreation (MSD)



**NGĀI TAHU Tourism**

**NGĀI TAHU Property**





# What is an estuary?

- Central to Ngai Tahu ki Murihiku identity and wellbeing

Ensuring the health and wellbeing of freshwater is a prerequisite for ensuring the continued health and wellbeing of mahinga kai resources and ultimately the people

Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu Freshwater Policy Statement 1999



# Values

- Tino Rangatiratanga
- Whakapapa
- Kaitiakitanga
- Ki Uta Ki Tai
- Mauri
- Wairua
- Mahinga kai
- Manaakitanga
- Mātauranga Māori
- Te Reo
- Whānaungatanga

Reciprocity

Toi tu te marae a Tane  
Toi tu te marae a Tangaroa  
Toi tu the iwi

Image © 2015 TerraMetrics  
Image © 2015 DigitalGlobe

Image © 2015 CNES / Astrium

Tipa 2011

Google earth



# Ki uta ki tai



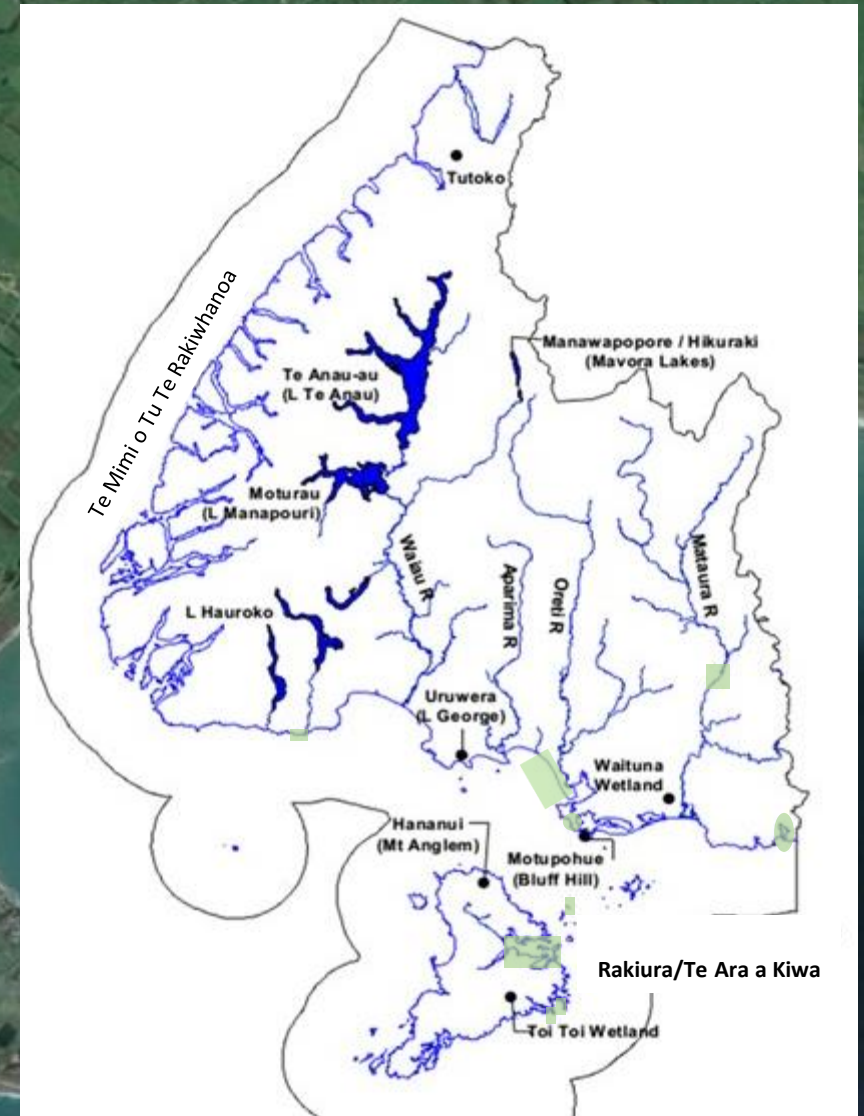
He taura whiri kotahi mai ano te  
kopunga tai no I te Pū au

From the source to the mouth of  
the river all things are joined  
together as one



# Expectations

- NTCSA 1998 & customary protection tools – gives clear indication of areas that we expect to be protected
- Includes ALL estuaries





# Expectations

Key aspirations/expectations summarised for ES WAL 2020:

- The waterways are to meet their respective cultural expectations/values through maintenance or restoration
- No water body within Murihiku can have further degraded water quality
- In exercising kaitiakitanga, we work actively to ensure that spiritual, cultural and mahinga kai values of the takiwā are upheld and sustained for future generations
- Skills, activities and knowledge relating to freshwater and mahinga kai are fostered and passed on to future generations
- Imbed cultural values throughout freshwater management from defining the issues to value setting and monitoring. Narrative, visual and cultural indicators are key management tools.




# Concerns

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- Lack of action (e.g. JRE case study)
- Halting of monitoring
- Health concern of pathogens, mercury and anticoagulant in sediments and mahinga kai
- Loss of species and impacts on whanau
- Reliance of NPS-FM to solve the issues (NPS-FM is only a part of the bigger management framework required)
- The high speed of estuarine decline and the slow speed of policy implementation



A satellite image showing a coastal region. A river flows from the top center towards the bottom right, forming a delta. The land is covered in green agricultural fields, some of which are irrigated. The coastline is visible on the right and bottom, with a sandy beach and turquoise water. The ocean is dark blue. The text "Are our expectations being met?" is overlaid in white at the top left.

# Are our expectations being met?

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Google earth