

3. Māori and mana whenua relationship to biodiversity

Mana whenua of Te Whanganui ā Tara are Taranaki Whānui and Ngāti Toa Rangatira. Mana whenua consider that the relationship with biodiversity is an intrinsic and important part of their responsibilities as Kaitiaki within their whaitua/rohe/takiwā. As mana whenua they encourage collaboration and partnership to ensure that together we care for the environment entrusted to us.

“Whatungarongaro te tangata,
toitu te whenua”

“As man disappears from sight,
the land remains”

Wellington City Council acknowledges the mana whenua status of Taranaki Whānui ki te Upoko o te Ika and Ngāti Toa Rangatira to the Wellington City area and we will work in partnership with iwi groups in the development and delivery of this strategy. We will also support and work with other Māori groups who are active in restoring the mauri of the area. In achieving the vision for Our Natural Capital we will work in partnership with Māori, acknowledging the connection tangata whenua have with our city’s natural taonga and weaving the principles of tikanga Māori, kaitiakitanga and manaakitanga through the work we do.

We acknowledge the unique relationship Māori have with New Zealand’s natural taonga - our indigenous biodiversity - as tangata whenua, and their role as kaitiaki. We also recognise and value the Māori world view in understanding and communicating the unique status of our natural taonga. The holistic approach of the Māori world view speaks of the interconnectedness of species and ecosystems, and the importance of managing at an ecosystem and a landscape scale. It also encompasses the need for the sustainable management of natural resources.

We have strived to ensure the strategy is aligned with Māori approaches to resource management by looking at whole systems, the relationships between these systems, and by recognising the connection of the people with the land.

“Toitu te marae a Tane, toitu te
marae a Tangaroa, toitu te iwi”

“Care for the domain of Tane
Mahuta and Tangaroa, so too
will the people endure”

I LOVE THIS CITY
WIND/THAT BLA
THE LIFE, AND PU
WARM DECRETI
HERE THAT ONE
AND/PRECARIOUS

Patricia Green

