

**Version  
as at 9 January 2025**



**Maori Reservations Regulations 1994**  
(SR 1994/57)

Catherine A Tizard, Governor-General

**Order in Council**

At Wellington this 11th day of April 1994

Present:

The Right Hon D C McKinnon presiding in Council

Pursuant to section 338(15) of Te Ture Whenua Maori Act 1993, Her Excellency the Governor-General, acting by and with the advice and consent of the Executive Council, hereby makes the following regulations.

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**Note**

The Parliamentary Counsel Office has made editorial and format changes to this version using the powers under subpart 2 of Part 3 of the Legislation Act 2019.

Note 4 at the end of this version provides a list of the amendments included in it.

**This Act is administered by Te Puni Kōkiri.**

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## Regulations

### 1 Title and commencement

- (1) These regulations may be cited as the Maori Reservations Regulations 1994.
- (2) These regulations shall come into force on 23 May 1994.

### 2 Interpretation

In these regulations, unless the context otherwise requires,—

**the Act** means Te Ture Whenua Maori Act 1993

**court** means, as the case may require, the Maori Land Court or the Maori Appellate Court or both

**reservation** means any land that is set apart as, or is deemed to be, a Maori reservation under section 338 of the Act

**trustees** means the body corporate or persons in whom a reservation is for the time being vested, by order of the court, and by which or by whom the reservation is administered.

### 3 Trustees

Any trustee for the time being appointed, by order of the court, in relation to any reservation,—

- (a) shall, subject to paragraphs (d) to (f), hold office, pursuant to, and in accordance with, the relevant order of the court, from the date of the order or from such other date as is specified in the order:

- (b) shall have, during the trustee's term as trustee, in addition to any powers and obligations at law, the powers and obligations contained in these regulations, except to the extent that such powers and obligations are varied by order of the court made at the time of the trustee's appointment, or at any later time;
- (c) shall exercise personally the office of trustee and shall have no power to delegate the office of trustee to any other person;
- (d) *[Revoked]*
- (e) may retire from the office of trustee upon giving notice to that effect to the court or to the other trustees;
- (f) may be removed from office by order of the court made at any time and shall cease to hold office from such time as the order shall specify;
- (g) shall, upon ceasing to hold the office of trustee, comply with any directions of the court in relation to the reservation and the trustee's office;
- (h) shall be eligible for reappointment unless removed from office by order of the court.

Regulation 3(d): revoked, on 11 April 2001 (with effect on 23 May 1994), by section 19(2) of Te Ture Whenua Maori Amendment Act 2001 Maori Land Amendment Act 2001 (2001 No 11).

#### **4 Notice of appointment**

The trustee or trustees of a reservation shall, on being appointed, give notice of the appointment—

- (a) by publishing, within 7 days of the appointment, in a newspaper circulating in the district in which the reservation is situated, a notice giving details of the appointment; and
- (b) by giving such other, or additional, notice of the appointment as the court may direct at any time.

#### **5 Display on reservation of permanent notice of reservation**

The trustee or trustees of a reservation may display on the reservation a permanent notice that includes—

- (a) the name of the reservation; and
- (b) the name and address of each trustee; and
- (c) a statement that the trustees are the persons responsible, pursuant to an order of the court, for the administration of the reservation; and
- (d) a statement that any public activity or gathering on, or in relation to, the reservation may not be conducted without the authorisation of the trustee or trustees; and
- (e) particulars of any other activities or events that require the authorisation of the trustees before those activities or events may be conducted on the reservation; and

- (f) a statement of the requirements of the trustees in relation to applications for authorisation; and
- (g) the address to which applications made under regulation 10 should be made by an applicant for an authorisation.

## 6 Duty of trustees

It shall be the duty, at all times, of the trustees to act in good faith in the exercise of their powers under these regulations, and to administer the reservation in respect of which they are appointed—

- (a) in such manner as will promote the purposes for which the reservation is set apart; and
- (b) for the benefit of the persons for the time being entitled to the use and enjoyment of the reservation; and
- (c) in accordance with the Act and these regulations, and any order of the court in relation to the reservation.

## 7 Charter in respect of marae

- (1) Subject to subclause (2), where a reservation is a marae, the trustees of that reservation shall draw up, in agreement with the beneficiaries of the marae, a charter for the reservation, which charter may include provision for the following matters:
  - (a) the name of the marae;
  - (b) a general description of the marae reservation (including a plan if appropriate);
  - (c) a list of iwi, hapu, or whanau (whichever is relevant) who are the beneficiaries of the marae reservation;
  - (d) the process for nominating and selecting marae trustees;
  - (e) principles to which the trustees will have regard in relation to the marae;
  - (f) the manner in which the trustees are to be accountable to the beneficiaries;
  - (g) the process by which conflicts between beneficiaries and trustees are to be resolved;
  - (h) the recognition of existing marae committees;
  - (i) the appointment by the trustees of 1 or more committees for the purposes of carrying out the day to day administration of the marae;
  - (j) the procedure for altering the charter;
  - (k) provision for the keeping and inspection of the charter;
  - (l) subject to the provisions of the Act or any regulations made under the Act, such other matters as the beneficiaries of the marae may require.

(2) Where a reservation that is a marae is to be held for the common use and benefit of the people of New Zealand, the charter for the reservation shall, instead of being drawn up in agreement with the beneficiaries of the marae, be drawn up in agreement with the beneficial owners of the land.

## **8 Powers of trustees**

The trustees of any reservation may, subject to any order of the court,—

- (a) authorise activities on the reservation by any person or class of persons:
- (b) issue permits in relation to any activity on a reservation:
- (c) apply to the court for any directions in relation to the administration of the reservation, and the powers and obligations of the trustees:
- (d) call meetings of interested persons in relation to the administration of the reservation:
- (e) appoint and employ, on behalf of the trustees, such advisers as the trustees think fit, for the purposes of enabling their better administration of the reservation.

## **9 Activities requiring prior written authorisation of trustees**

(1) The following activities on a reservation shall require the prior written authorisation of the trustee or trustees—

- (a) the use of any building on the reservation:
- (b) the promoting or holding of any hui, meeting, or other large gathering of persons within a reservation:
- (c) the promoting or holding of any sports event, competition, or concert within a reservation:
- (d) such other activities or events as the trustees may from time to time determine require the prior written authorisation of the trustees.

(2) Nothing in subclause (1) requires the prior written authorisation of the trustee or trustees to be obtained in relation to the conduct on a reservation of a tangi hanga.

## **10 Application for authorisation**

(1) Any person who desires to promote or hold on any reservation any activity of the kind referred to in regulation 9(1) shall make a written application to the trustees.

(2) The application shall state—

- (a) the full name and address of the applicant:
- (b) the particular activity for which consent is sought:
- (c) the area of land, and the buildings, that it is proposed be used or occupied, in relation to the activity:

- (d) the proposed date, and time of duration, of the activity;
- (e) the numbers of persons which the applicant proposes might attend the activity and the arrangements the applicant proposes for admission to, and control of, the activity.

## 11 Power of trustees to request further information

The trustees may, upon receipt of an application to conduct an activity of the kind referred to in regulation 9(1), request further information from the applicant, and the trustees shall not be required to consider the application until the trustees have received that further information, and completed such inquiries, as the trustees may in their discretion require or consider appropriate.

## 12 Consideration and determination of application

- (1) Subject to regulation 11, the trustees shall meet to consider and determine any application as soon as practicable.
- (2) The trustees may—
  - (a) adjourn consideration of the application until such date as they think fit (being a date not later than the date on which the proposed activity is to take place or begin); or
  - (b) grant the application; or
  - (c) grant the application, subject to such conditions as the trustees think fit; or
  - (d) decline the application.

## 13 No obligation to give reasons for decision

The trustees shall not be obliged to give to any person any reasons in relation to the trustees' decision or requirements, made under regulation 11 or regulation 12, unless the trustees have been required by an order of the court to do so.

## 14 Meetings of persons interested in reservation

- (1) The trustees may, if they consider it desirable, and shall, if required by order of the court, convene meetings of any persons interested in the reservation.
- (2) Such meetings shall, subject to any order of the court,—
  - (a) be held at the time and in the manner decided by the trustees;
  - (b) be chaired by a trustee, or a person nominated by the trustees;
  - (c) be notified, if the trustees consider it desirable, by 14 days' notice being given by the trustees—
    - (i) in a notice published in a newspaper circulating in the district in which the reservation is situated; or
    - (ii) in a notice affixed at or near the notice referred to in regulation 5;

(d) be conducted in such manner as the chairperson of the meeting shall direct (subject to paragraph (a) and subclause (3)).

(3) A meeting may be held—

- (a) by the attendees being assembled together at the time and place appointed for the meeting; or
- (b) by means of audio, audio and visual, or electronic communication, provided that—
  - (i) an attendee who is participating in this manner has access to the technology needed to participate in the meeting; and
  - (ii) as far as is reasonably practicable, the attendees can simultaneously communicate with each other throughout the meeting; or
- (c) by a combination of the methods described in paragraphs (a) and (b).

Regulation 14(2)(a): replaced, on 9 January 2025, by regulation 4(1) of the Maori Reservations Amendment Regulations 2024 (SL 2024/253).

Regulation 14(2)(d): amended, on 9 January 2025, by regulation 4(2) of the Maori Reservations Amendment Regulations 2024 (SL 2024/253).

Regulation 14(3): inserted, on 9 January 2025, by regulation 4(3) of the Maori Reservations Amendment Regulations 2024 (SL 2024/253).

## **15 Records and accounts**

The trustees shall—

- (a) keep and maintain separate, accurate, and up to date records and accounts in relation to their administration of the reservation;
- (b) maintain a separate bank account in relation to the reservation and pay into such bank account all money received by the trustees in relation to the reservation;
- (c) ensure that such separate bank account is operated only by at least 2 signatories for the time being authorised by the trustees to operate the bank account;
- (d) if required by the court at any time, produce to the court for examination all records, books of account, and vouchers in the possession or control of the trustees, in relation to the reservation.

## **16 Provisions applicable where trustee is body corporate**

Where a body corporate is appointed trustee of a reservation, that trustee shall, subject to any order of the court,—

- (a) ensure that the trustee's decisions are made lawfully in accordance with the constitution of the body corporate by the board of directors or other committee of management of the body corporate;
- (b) keep such separate accurate records, books of account and minute books, in relation to the administration of the reservation, as are required to

distinguish clearly the trustee's role as trustee from any other activities of the trustee.

## 17 Provisions applicable where trustees are not body corporate

Where the trustees are other than a body corporate as sole trustee, then, subject to any order of the court,—

- (a) the trustees shall convene and hold a first meeting of trustees within 30 days of their appointment:
- (b) the trustees shall otherwise meet for the dispatch of business at such times and in such manner as the trustees consider appropriate:
- (c) no business shall be transacted at any meeting of the trustees unless a quorum is present:
- (d) where the number of trustees is 2 or 3, 2 shall constitute a quorum and, where the number of trustees is more than 3, a quorum shall consist of at least one-half in number of the trustees:
- (da) a meeting of trustees may be held—
  - (i) by a quorum of the trustees, being assembled together at the time and place of the meeting; or
  - (ii) by means of audio, audio and visual, or electronic communication provided that—
    - (A) all of the trustees who wish to participate in the meeting have access to the technology needed to participate in the meeting; and
    - (B) a quorum of trustees can simultaneously communicate with each other throughout the meeting; or
  - (iii) by a quorum of the trustees participating by a combination of the methods described in subparagraphs (i) and (ii):
- (e) the trustees shall at their first meeting appoint one of their number to act as chairperson and that person shall remain in office until such time as the trustees appoint a new chairperson:
- (f) if the trustees are unable to agree as to the appointment of a chairperson, or for any other reason fail to appoint a chairperson, the court may appoint a chairperson to hold office for a specified term or until a new chairperson is appointed by the trustees or the court:
- (g) all questions coming before the trustees at any meeting shall be decided by a majority of the votes of the trustees present at the meeting:
- (h) at every meeting the chairperson, or, in his or her absence, some other trustee chosen by those present, shall preside; and the chairperson or presiding trustee shall have a deliberative vote and also, in the event of an equality of votes on any matter, a casting vote:

(i) all proceedings and resolutions of the trustees, and proceedings of a meeting convened under regulation 14 or regulation 19, shall be recorded in a minute book to be kept by the trustees for that purpose.

Regulation 17(b): amended, on 9 January 2025, by regulation 5(1) of the Maori Reservations Amendment Regulations 2024 (SL 2024/253).

Regulation 17(da): inserted, on 9 January 2025, by regulation 5(2) of the Maori Reservations Amendment Regulations 2024 (SL 2024/253).

## **18 Execution of documents**

(1) Except in the case of a deed or other document that is required to be signed by all of the trustees, any deed or other instrument to which the trustees are a party may be signed on behalf of the trustees by a majority of the trustees if the entry into and execution of the deed or other document has been authorised by a resolution of the trustees.

(2) Where a deed or other instrument is signed in accordance with subclause (1) by a majority of the trustees, that deed or other instrument shall be as binding on the trustees as it would have been if it had been signed by all of the trustees.

## **19 Annual meeting**

(1) The trustee or trustees of a reservation must, subject to any order of the court, call an annual meeting in each year, and give 21 days' prior notice of the time of the meeting and the manner in which it will be held—

(a) by publishing, in a newspaper circulating in the district where the reservation is situated, a notice giving particulars of that time and manner; and

(b) by giving such other, or additional, notice of that time and manner as the court may direct.

(2) The annual general meeting—

(a) shall be open to the attendance of all beneficiaries or other persons for whose benefit the reservation is intended; and

(aa) may be held—

(i) by the attendees being assembled together at the time and place appointed for the meeting; or

(ii) by means of audio, audio and visual, or electronic communication, provided that—

(A) an attendee who is participating in this manner has access to the technology needed to participate in the meeting; and

(B) as far as is reasonably practicable, the attendees can simultaneously communicate with each other throughout the meeting; or

(iii) by a combination of the methods described in subparagraphs (i) and (ii); and

- (b) shall be chaired by a trustee, or a person nominated by the trustees; and
- (c) shall be conducted in such other manner as the chairperson of the meeting directs.

(3) The trustee or trustees shall at the annual general meeting—

- (a) outline the position of the reservation, including the matters undertaken by the trustees in the preceding 12-month period; and
- (b) report generally on the trustees' proposals for the administration of the reservation during the next 12-month period; and
- (c) give to persons attending the meeting a reasonable opportunity to express their views in relation to the reservation.

(4) Nothing in subclause (3) limits the matters that the trustees may address at the annual meeting or obliges the trustees to prepare or distribute any particular written reports or material.

Regulation 19(1): replaced, on 9 January 2025, by regulation 6(1) of the Maori Reservations Amendment Regulations 2024 (SL 2024/253).

Regulation 19(2)(aa): inserted, on 9 January 2025, by regulation 6(2) of the Maori Reservations Amendment Regulations 2024 (SL 2024/253).

Regulation 19(2)(c): amended, on 9 January 2025, by regulation 6(3) of the Maori Reservations Amendment Regulations 2024 (SL 2024/253).

## 20 Trustee who ceases to hold office

A person who ceases to hold office as trustee—

- (a) shall deliver to the remaining trustee, or to the court, all records and papers in the possession of, or under the control of, the trustee in relation to the reservation;
- (b) subject to compliance with paragraph (a) and subject to paragraph (c), shall be released from any future liability as trustee in relation to the reservation;
- (c) shall not be released, by virtue of ceasing to hold office, from any liability as trustee arising out of or in relation to actions or omissions of the trustee that occurred while that person was holding the office of trustee.

## 21 Inquiry into administration of reservation

(1) The court may at any time, upon application made to the court by any beneficiary or person whom the reservation is intended to benefit, conduct or order such inquiry into the administration by any trustee of a reservation, as the court thinks fit.

(2) No inquiry shall be conducted by the court unless—

- (a) the applicant for such inquiry has filed with the court a statement, signed by the applicant, containing the detailed grounds upon which the applicant requires the inquiry; and

- (b) the applicant has given to each trustee a copy of the application made to the court under subclause (1); and
- (c) either—
  - (i) the court received a written statement, in relation to the application, signed by or on behalf of the trustees; or
  - (ii) the court has dispensed with compliance with subparagraph (i).

**22 Activities committed in contravention of Act, regulations, or order of court**

- (1) No person shall conduct any activity on a reservation, if the activity, or the manner, time, or duration of the activity, is in contravention of, or not permitted by,—
  - (a) the Act or these regulations or any order of the court, in relation to the reservation; or
  - (b) any authorisation for the time being given by the trustee or trustees of the reservation.
- (2) No person shall, without the prior written authorisation of the trustees of a reservation, conduct on that reservation any activity that requires, under these regulations, the prior written authorisation of those trustees.

**23 Offences**

- (1) Every person commits an offence against these regulations who, without lawful excuse, acts in contravention of, or fails to comply with, regulation 22.
- (2) Every person who commits an offence against these regulations shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$10.

Regulation 23(2): amended, on 1 July 2013, by section 413 of the Criminal Procedure Act 2011 (2011 No 81).

**24 Revocation**

The Maori Reservations Regulations 1963 (SR 1963/210) are hereby revoked.

Marie Shroff,  
Clerk of the Executive Council.

Issued under the authority of the Legislation Act 2019.  
Date of notification in *Gazette*: 14 April 1994.

## Te Ture Whenua Maori Amendment Act 2001 Maori Land Amendment Act 2001

Public Act      2001 No 11  
Date of assent      10 April 2001  
Commencement      see section 2

### 1      Title

- (1) This Act is both—
  - (a) Te Ture Whenua Maori Amendment Act 2001; and
  - (b) the Maori Land Amendment Act 2001.
- (2) In this Act, Te Ture Whenua Maori Act 1993 is called “the principal Act”.

### 2      Commencement

This Act comes into force on the day after the date on which it receives the Royal assent.

### 19     Maori Reservations Regulations 1994

- (1) Subject to subsections (2) to (4), the Maori Reservations Regulations 1994 (SR 1994/57) are deemed to be, and to have always been, valid.
- (2) *Amendment(s) incorporated in the regulations.*
- (3) Despite subsection (2),—
  - (a) the action of any person, in vacating office before the commencement of this Act, in accordance with regulation 3(d) of the Maori Reservations Regulations 1994, is deemed to be, and to have always been, valid;
  - (b) the action of any person, in declining to vacate office in accordance with regulation 3(d) of the Maori Reservations Regulations 1994, is deemed to be, and to have always been, valid;
  - (c) the action of the court, in appointing any person as a trustee of a Maori reservation in the place of a person who has, before the commencement of this Act, vacated office in accordance with regulation 3(d) of the Maori Reservations Regulations 1994, is deemed to be, and to have always been, valid.
- (4) Despite subsections (2) and (3), a trustee of a Maori reservation who has, before the commencement of this Act, vacated office in accordance with regulation 3(d) of the Maori Reservations Regulations 1994 is not entitled, and is deemed never to have been entitled,—
  - (a) to be reinstated in office; or
  - (b) to receive any compensation for loss of office by reason of his or her vacation of office in accordance with regulation 3(d).

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## Notes

### **1 General**

This is a consolidation of the Maori Reservations Regulations 1994 that incorporates the amendments made to the legislation so that it shows the law as at its stated date.

### **2 Legal status**

A consolidation is taken to correctly state, as at its stated date, the law enacted or made by the legislation consolidated and by the amendments. This presumption applies unless the contrary is shown.

Section 78 of the Legislation Act 2019 provides that this consolidation, published as an electronic version, is an official version. A printed version of legislation that is produced directly from this official electronic version is also an official version.

### **3 Editorial and format changes**

The Parliamentary Counsel Office makes editorial and format changes to consolidations using the powers under subpart 2 of Part 3 of the Legislation Act 2019. See also PCO editorial conventions for consolidations.

### **4 Amendments incorporated in this consolidation**

Maori Reservations Amendment Regulations 2024 (SL 2024/253)

Criminal Procedure Act 2011 (2011 No 81): section 413

Te Ture Whenua Maori Amendment Act 2001 Maori Land Amendment Act 2001 (2001 No 11): section 19