BEFORE THE FAR NORTH DISTRIC COUNCIL

PROPOSED DISTRICT PLAN HEARING PANEL

IN THE MATTER	of the Resource Management Act 1991
AND	
IN THE MATTER	of the hearing of submissions on Hearing 12 - Historic and Cultural Values, District- Wide Matters, of the Proposed Far North District Plan
AND	
IN THE MATTER	of the submission # S409 Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga

STATEMENT OF EVIDENCE OF BILL EDWARDS
ON BEHALF OF HERITAGE NEW ZEALAND POUHERE TAONGA

15 May 2025

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. My name is Bill Edwards. I have worked for Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga (HNZPT) for 29 years as a curator, archaeologist and area manager. Before my employment with HNZPT I worked at the Canterbury Museum in as a collection and display technician. I hold university qualifications in agriculture, history and archaeology. I am an archaeologist (MA Hons University of Otago) with 34 years of heritage experience in a variety of associated fields.

1.2. My public and private experience includes involvement in heritage property management, writing technical reports, archaeological excavation and analysis, working with Iwi, hapu, District and Regional councils, Central Government and public speaking on heritage matters. I also assist with technical advice to plan preparation, analysis of and submitting to plans and policy statements; and preparing, lodging, submitting on and assessing a wide range of resource consent applications and designations.

- 3 Years or so working for Canterbury Museum assisting with archaeological collections, building display dioramas and archaeological excavation.
- Some 12 years working for HNZPT as a live-in curator on a heritage property Fyffe House Kaikoura. This included property and visitor management, display, interpretation, research and writing.
- Some 10 years as a professional archaeologist working as a consultant and as the Northland area archaeologist processing archaeological authorities, providing advice for resource consents and planning to four councils, excavation, providing evidence for court for prosecutions, providing technical advice and evidence to Environment court.
- Some 14 years as the Northland area manager for HNZPT which includes liaison with councils, iwi, hapu and central government. My role is supporting and contributing to technical matters associated with archaeology, planning, Listing, evidence gathering and presentations to a wide variety of audiences.

1.3. I confirm that I have read the Code of Conduct for Expert Witnesses contained in the Environment Court Practice Note 2023 and have complied with it when preparing this evidence. I confirm that I have considered all the material facts that I am aware of that

might alter or detract from the opinions that I express, and that this evidence is within my area of expertise.

1.4. In circulating this heritage evidence, I have also considered and relied upon the opinions of other heritage professionals within my organisation. In particular Stuart Bracey Heritage Planner, Northland.

2. OUTLINE OF EVIDENCE

2.1. In my evidence I address:

a) The nationally significant value of Historic Heritage and Cultural Heritage found within the Far North.

b) The historic heritage and cultural heritage values found within the additional sites identified in the HNZPT submission.

3. Historical and Cultural Heritage within the Far North

3.1. Te Tai Tokerau (Northland) has a rich cultural history and is home to the largest iwi in Aotearoa/ New Zealand, Ngapuhi, who traversed the oceans from Polynesian to become the tangata whenua - Māori of this land. Māori colonised the rugged new land and have adapted and made Aotearoa home, the many stories, customs, traditions and people attest to the lives of tangata whenua- Māori.

3.2. Māori welcomed the first European missionaries to establish the first European settlement at Rangihoua, which over time expanded with the relationships built by Reverend Samuel Marsden and Ngapuhi chiefs, Hongi Hika, Ruatara – to include Kerikeri/Kororipo; Te Waimate and Paihia.

3.3. Relationships of a different kind were established with other Māori chiefs and the establishment of a community based in Kororareka/Russell centred around trade, provisioning and entertainment.

3.4. Our district is home to Aotearoa's most significant national heritage sites, including:

- Rākaumangamanga, a wayfaring point of the first seven waka Hokianga Whakapau Karakia,
- where Kupe discovered Aotearoa Te Ara Wairua (the spirits' pathway)

- Te Rerenga Wairua (the leaping off place of spirits), where spirits travel after death and depart to the spiritual homeland of Hawaiiki
- Waitangi, the 'Birthplace of the Nation' where He Whakaputanga o Te Rangatiratanga o Niu Tireni (the Declaration of Independence) was signed in 1835 and where Te Tiriti o Waitangi (the Treaty of Waitangi) was first signed in 1840;
- Rangihoua, Aotearoa's first planned European settlement, a place where Māori and Europeans learned to live side by side Kororipo,
- headquarters of Ngāpuhi chief Hongi Hika and site of New Zealand's oldest standing buildings
- Mangungu Mission, the scene of the largest signing of Te Tiriti o Waitangi
- Te Waimate, home to important Ngāpuhi pā and New Zealand's first European farm
- Pompallier Mission and Printery, New Zealand's oldest industrial building
- Ruapekapeka Pā, home to the site of the last battle of the Northern Wars
- Kororipo–Kerikeri Basin and the Waitangi Treaty Grounds heritage precincts are included on New Zealand's tentative list of eight sites for World Heritage Status.

Our district has played a significant role in shaping Aotearoa New Zealand. The Far North is where our Māori and Pākehā tūpuna first settled. The Bay of Islands was a meeting place of many cultures, and our district has been shaped by many cultural influences. From the French Catholic missionaries to the Dalmatians who came to forge new lives as gumdiggers, and the Chinese and Indian influences on our orchard industry. Tenacious, tactical and entrepreneurial, our tupuna/ancestors were navigators, explorers, storytellers, traders, politicians, peacemakers, hunters, gardeners and farmers.

The legacy of different cultures who made their mark on the Far North lives on in our traditional crafts, artefacts and in our natural and built environments. Every part of our district has a story to tell and these stories reveal much about who we are as a people.

The stories of the first voyaging waka with migrants from Polynesia reveal an intrepid people with deep and complex connections to the natural and spiritual worlds.

The stories of the Dutch, French, Russian, German, Spanish, Portuguese, British and North American whalers, sealers, traders and missionaries offer an insight into 'one of the most incredible expansions in human history.'

The construction of Mikaera Tapu | St Michael's Church in Ōhaeawai is a story of empathy by Ngāti Rangi towards fallen British troops and the generosity to Ngāpuhi of Charlotte Julia Doro a Weale, Mihiwira.

The stories of the Dalmatian gum diggers reveal a loyal, strong and proud community who formed close bonds with Māori with whom they shared their traditional music, the tamburica, and their folk dance the kolo.

The sinking of the SS Ventnor is a story of manaaki care, respect and connection. The ship sank while taking the bodies of 500 Chinese gold miners' home to China for burial. When their kōiwi bones washed ashore, Te Roroa and Te Rarawa buried them alongside their own ancestors.

The story of how Kerikeri came to be the citrus capital of New Zealand is a story of innovation and experimentation by a wave of settlers from the East.

The story of The Rainbow Warrior, which now occupies a watery grave in Matauri Bay, is a reminder of our nation's journey to becoming nuclear-free.(*Toi-Mana-Arts,-Culture-and-Heritage-Strategy-FINAL-May2024.pdf*

4. Drystone walls Cultural Heritage Protection.

4.1. The Council Planner has indicated that Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act is sufficient to protect dry stone walls in the district. The Council Planner has also indicated that many of the dry-stone walls in the district are modern structures and as such it is not recommended to have a general rule for protecting dry stone walls. I disagree with this

4.2. The significance of the dry-stone walls found within the District is based on the following;

- The construction of dry-stone walls by Māori is the largest intact stone field gardening site outside of eastern Polynesia (pre 1820.s).

- The ongoing construction of dry-stone walls for pastoral farming purposes that started in the 1820's and continued into the 1930's, with a number of stone walls, enclosures and buildings that date back to the birth of pastoral farming in New Zealand.
- The cultural landscape (both in relation to Māori and European settlement activities) created by the dry-stone walls, where located within the District. (*Sutton, Douglas & Furey, Louise & Marshall, Yvonne. (2003). The Archaeology of Pouerua.)*

I would like to encourage the Far North District Council to provide the same level of management and protection that are afforded to dry-stone walls through the current Whangarei District Plan.

I would like to respond to some of the concerns raised by the Council planner leading to her recommendation to reject this submission;

- In my experience the majority of modern stone walls constructed within the District are not constructed in the dry-stone method. They are stone walls using the cement method of construction. I understand that these stonewalls would not be caught by the proposed general rule.
- I acknowledge the dry-stone walls erected prior to the 1900's have some protection under the HNZPT Act. However, in my experience, it is difficult for landowners to determine the age of dry-stone walls they may be considering demolishing. Further HNZPT most often becomes aware of the proposed demolition of a dry-stone wall, after it has been destroyed.
- I believe the provision of a dry-stone wall protection rule in the PDP will raise awareness of the cultural heritage value attached to this feature in the District. It may also increase the likelihood of landowners contacting HNZPT to discuss the value of their dry-stone wall prior to any demolition activity.

5. Additional Heritage Areas (Refer to the attached maps Attachment 3)

5.1. Extension to the Kororareka Russell Heritage Overlay Area

The Council Planner recommends amending the spatial extent to include Te Maiki at paragraph 88. I agree with this recommendation.

The significance of adding Flagstaff hill area is based on the following;

- During the period from 1840 to 1913 six flagstaffs were erected here. The flagstaff previously erected at Waitangi was transported across in March 1840. The flag of the confederation of Māori tribes was chosen by the Māori people in 1834 and had flown until 1840.
- Some Māori in the Bay believed that the Union Jack was a symbol of their loss of authority and prosperity, and they believed terms of the Treaty were not being honoured. The first four flagstaff's were cut down by Hone Heke and his cohorts as an objection to British sovereignty sparking the Northland wars. The flagstaff was never erected again during the lifetime of Heke *(Maingay 1989).*

This heritage area overlay needs to extend to include Te Maiki which has been an historic reserve since 1932 and should be recognised in the District Plan. (https://www.doc.govt.nz/parks-and-recreation/places-to-go/northland/places/russell-area/heritage-sites/flagstaff-hill-historic-reserve)

5.2. Extension to the Rawene Heritage Area Overlay

The Council Planner did not recommend including the Rawene Hospital site and nearby cemetery. I disagree with this recommendation.

The significance of adding the Rawene Hospital site and cemetery to be included as part of the Rawene Heritage overlay area is based on the following;

- the Rawene hospital site was the base for the Hokianga Special Area Medical Scheme instigated by the late Dr.G.M. Smith in the 1920's
- The Memorial Sundial dedicated to George McCall Smith *"The Doctor" in this district and medical superintendent from 1914 to 1948. Was also a farmer, town councillor and by his strength of personality became part of our way of life. No call was too far. No track too rough.*

  He designed the Rawene Hospital and set up the Hokianga Co-operative Medical Service. The then new hospital was opened in 1928.
- The cemetery opposite the hospital contains a number of people both Māori and European associated with Rawene. The inscriptions on memorials, together with the design of monuments and the choice of stones combine to make this

cemetery an irreplaceable historical resource and an important record of the social history of the area and community. (https://nzhistory.govt.nz/keyword/rawene)

5.3. Extension to the Te Waimate Heritage Area Overlay

At paragraph 143 of the Section 42a report, the Council Planner recommended to include the additional land to the north of the Mission Station in Te Waimate. I agree with this recommendation. The significance of expanding the Te Waimate Heritage Area overlay is based on the following;

- The Te Waimate station was the earliest inland farm created by the CMS, set up to instruct local Māori in new farming techniques and to supply other missions with food.
- It is extremely important for its connections with the Treaty of Waitangi and the circulation of the agreement throughout the country.
- It is nationally and internationally important as part of an early attempt to create an English-style landscape in New Zealand and spread European agricultural methods.
- Pastoral farming that went on to form the "backbone" of the New Zealand economy has its roots here.
- The landscape values of this site need to be preserved. (https://www.heritage.org.nz/list-details/3/Te-Waimate-Mission-House)

5.4. Additional Kaeo Township Heritage area

The Council Planner did not recommend including Kaeo Township. I disagree with this recommendation The significance of adding the Kaeo Township Heritage area is based on the following;

- Pohue pa at the eastern entrance to Kaeo and what were cultivated gardens on flats.
- The sinking and sacking of the Boyd 1809
- Te Ara Hoia or Dromedary Road New Zealand first wheeled road 1820
- First Wesleyan mission site 1823-1827

- A number of Listed buildings such as the Kaeo War Memorial Library which recently celebrated its centenary. (https://teara.govt.nz.)

5.5. Additional Kawakawa Township Heritage Area

The Council Planner did not recommend including Kawakawa Township. I disagree with this recommendation The significance of adding the Kawakawa Heritage Protection area is based on the following

- Kawakawa has a rich built history that includes early and modern structures including the Category 1 Hundertwasser Public Toilets and the railway network running down the main street.
- The legacy of Hundertwasser in Kawakawa continues with the Hundertwasser Park opening in 2020 but more importantly the main street has adopted many of his design motifs. The toilets have had a positive economic and artistic impact upon the town and are now internationally recognised as a tourist attraction as the Kawakawa community hoped they would become. This has been recognised as a Category 1 listed historic place by Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga. (https://www.heritage.org.nz/list-details/9867/Hundertwasser-Public-Toilets)

5.6. Additional Waitangi Islands Heritage Area

The Council Planner recommended to include the Waitangi Islands. I agree with this recommendation.

The significance of adding the Waitangi Islands as a heritage area is based on the following;

- These Islands are associated with tohunga and whare wananga. Te Kemara, tohunga of Ngapuhi held the last whare wananga on Motu Maire and associated with Motu Rangi.
- These islands are Listed as wahi tapu with Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga. (https://www.heritage.org.nz/list-details/7560/Listing)

5.7. Additional Oruru Valley Heritage Area

The Council Planner did not recommend including Oruru Valley. I disagree with this recommendation The significance of adding the Oruru Valley Heritage area is based on the following;

- The Oruru valley has over 40 pa sites within one valley system. This is the highest concentration of pa within a small clearly defined geographical area in Aotearoa/New Zealand.
- The rich alluvial soils found in the valley sustained a large Māori population through horticulture before disease, warfare and displacement decimated the population.
- SO far there are 43 recorded pa sites in the valley plus a multitude of associated archaeological sites of which many are intact. (https://www.kauhanga.nz/projects)

5.8. Additional Waitangi Heritage Area

I am aware that HNZPT is working with the National Waitangi Trust and FNDC planners to develop a special purpose zone for this area and I support this approach. I summarise the highly significant historic and cultural heritage values of Waitangi below.

Māori Cultural Values.

Waitangi is a significant sacred and ancestral landscape, with particular meaning for Ngāpuhi, New Zealand's largest iwi. It is where Maikuku, granddaughter of a founding ancestor of Ngāpuhi, Rāhiri, met her husband Hua, and gave birth to their eldest son, Te Rā - founder of Ngāti Rāhiri hāpu. Places within this landscape include Te Ana o Maikuku / Maikuku's cave, he tūru o Maikuku / Maikuku's seat and Ruarangi - where Te Rā was born. Waitangi remains an important centre for Ngāti Rāhiri and other hapū.

British Residency

The British Residency is New Zealand's oldest prefabricated structure, and one of the country's earliest surviving buildings. It directly reflects Waitangi's role as the main place of contact between Māori and the British Crown in the years leading up to 1840. In 1815, Ngāti Rāhiri rangatira Waraki helped missionary William Hall create one of the country's first European-style farms at Waitangi. In 1833-4, a largely prefabricated

house (above) was erected for the first British Resident, William Busby and his family - a government outpost in an almost exclusively Māori world.

The meeting place

Momentous events fundamental to New Zealand's emergence as a nation occurred within the Residency grounds. In the 1830s, land next to the Residency was used like a marae or paepae -for discussions among Māori, and between Māori and Pākehā. In a tent on the Residency lawn in 1834, Northern rangatira chose New Zealand's first national flag, Te Kara (below). The following year, another gathering of rangatira signed He Whakaputanga o te Rangatiratanga o Nu Tirene / The Declaration of the Independence of New Zealand. Waitangi continuous to be the nations meeting place on Waitangi Day.

Te Tiriti o Waitangi / The Treaty of Waitangi

The first signing of Te Tiriti o Waitangi / The Treaty of Waitangi took place in front of the Residency on 6 February 1840. Signed by a number of Māori rangatira and the British Crown, TeTiriti / The Treaty is a founding document for New Zealand as a modern nation state. The Waitangi signing site is symbolically marked by a tall flagstaff, initially erected in 1933. It lies at the heart of a network of other signing places linked with Te Tiriti / The Treaty, extending across the length and breadth of New Zealand. The treaty signing ground is listed as the one an only (to date) National Historic Landmark/ Ngā Manawhenua O Aotearoa me ōna Kōreroa Tūturu (List Number 1001).

https://www.heritage.org.nz/places/national-historic-landmarks

The Waitangi site, including all the area within the management of the Waitangi National Trust, needs to be both acknowledged and protected in the PDP.

6. CONCLUSIONS

6.1. The Far North District contains a concentration of some of the most important nation building heritage existing within New Zealand.

6.2. In my opinion, the HNZPT submissions, further submissions and s42A Planners recommendations that align with what we submitted, will continue the ongoing task of recognising and protecting the national heritage and Māori cultural values that are found in the Far North, for the benefit of all Aotearoa.

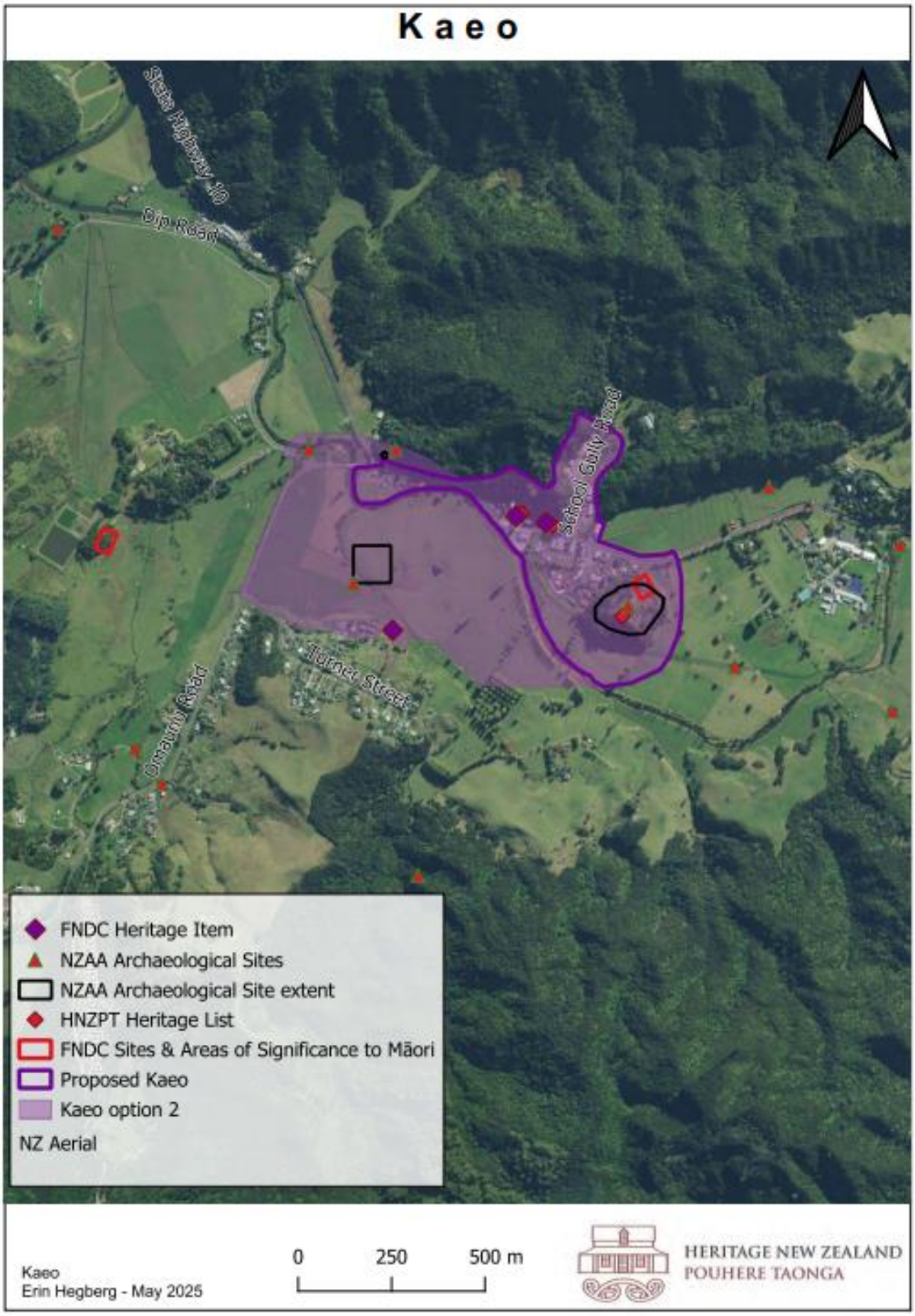
Bill Edwards

Northland Area Manager

Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1 – Heritage Area Overlay Maps


Kaeo
State Highway 10
Dip Road
School Gully Road
Turner Street
Puketona Road
FNDC Heritage Item
NZAA Archaeological Sites
NZAA Archaeological Site extent
HNZPT Heritage List
FNDC Sites & Areas of Significance to Māori
Proposed Kaeo
Kaeo option 2
NZ Aerial
Kaeo
Erin Hegberg - May 2025
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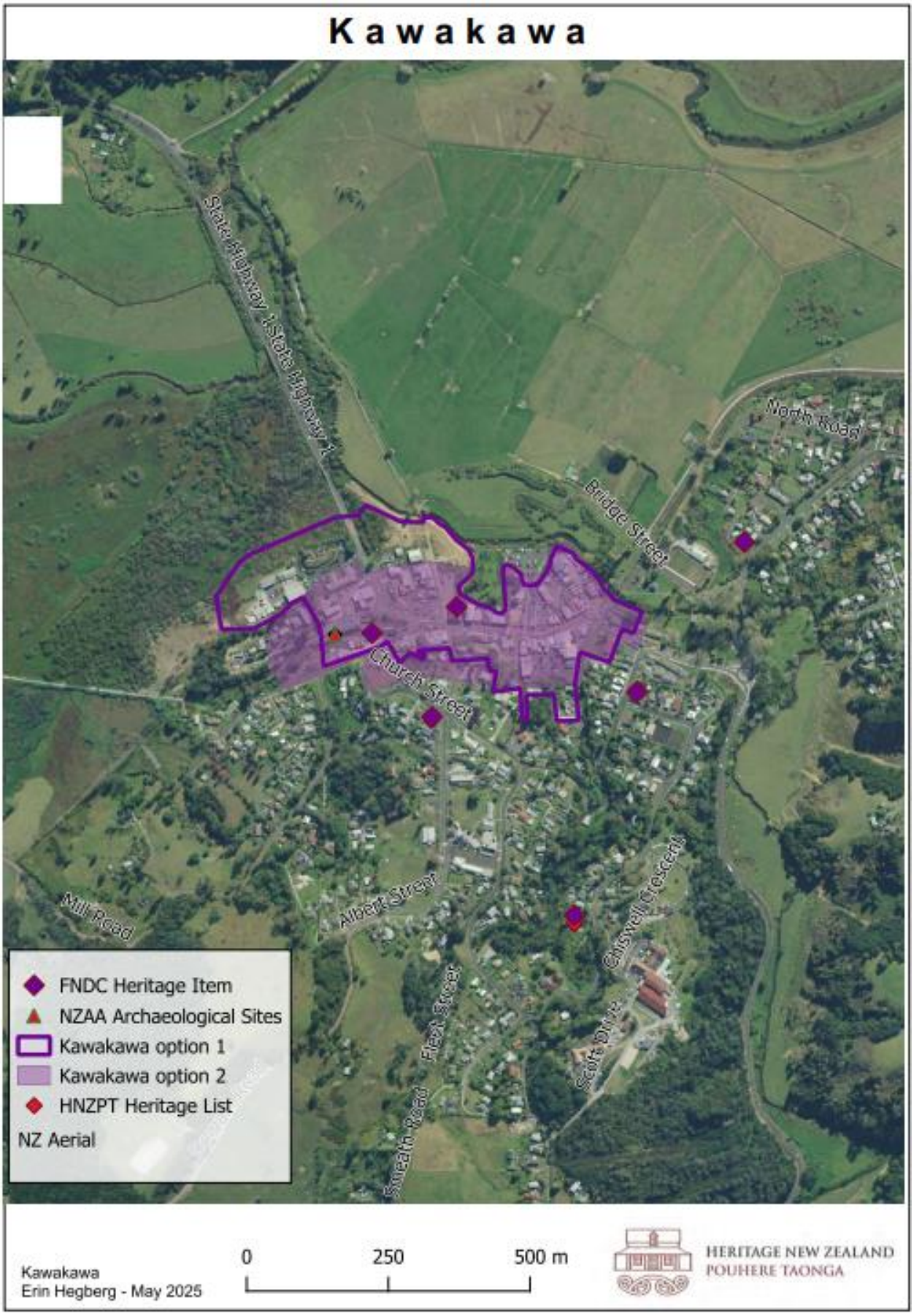
250
500 m
HERITAGE NEW ZEALAND
POUHERE TAONGA


Kawakawa
State Highway 1/State Highway 1
North Road
Bridge Street
Church Street
Mill Road
Albert Street
Caldwell Crescent
Scott Drive
Peak Street
Peak Heights
FNDC Heritage Item
NZAA Archaeological Sites
Kawakawa option 1
Kawakawa option 2
HNZPT Heritage List
NZ Aerial
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Kawakawa
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HERITAGE NEW ZEALAND
POUHERE TAONGA


Rawene
Harbour Esplanade
Parnell Street
Campbell Street
De Thierry Street
Rawene Road
FNDC Heritage Item
NZAA Archaeological Sites
FNDC Heritage Area
Rawene Part C
HNZPT Heritage List
NZ Aerial
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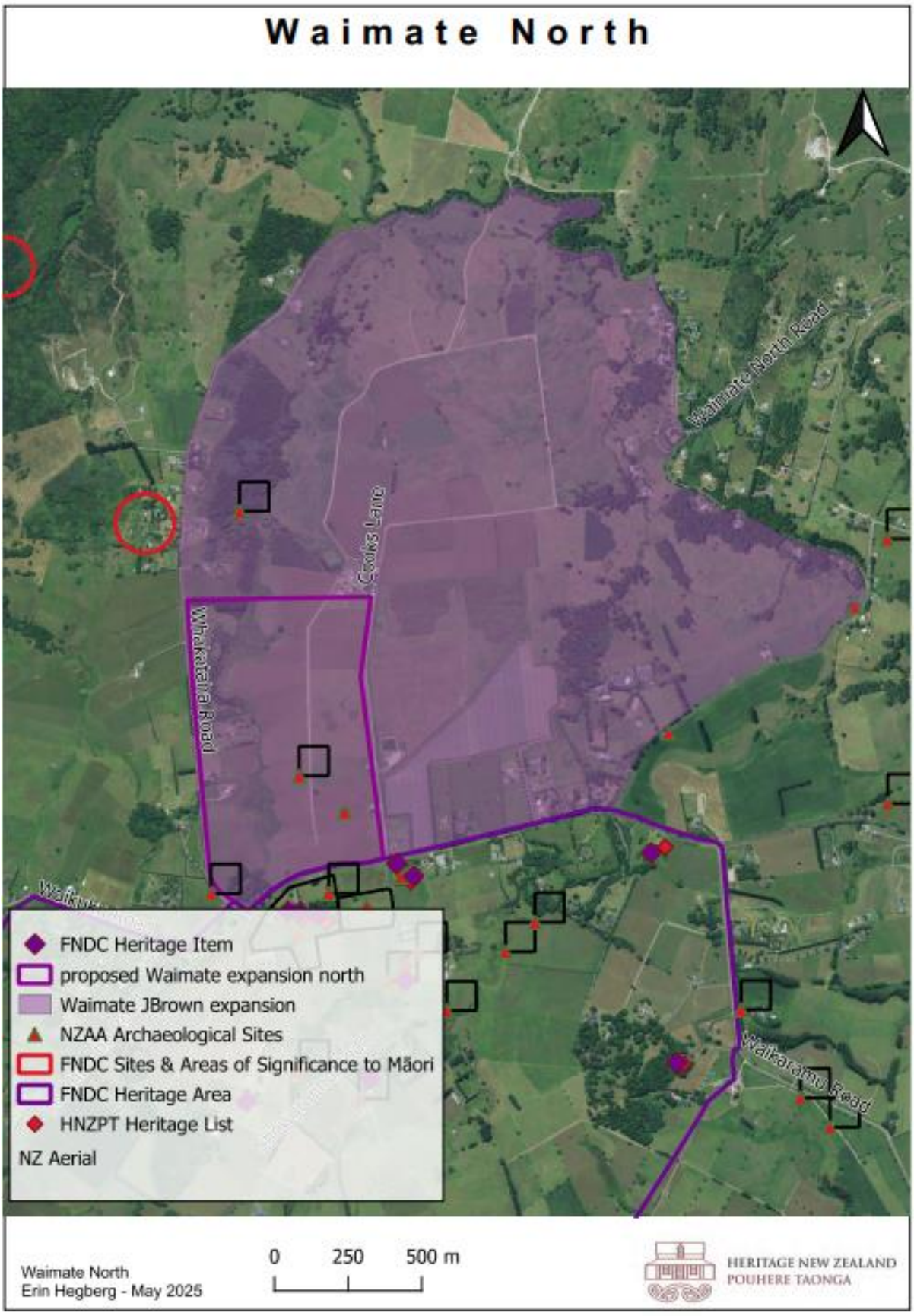
Rawene
Erin Hegberg - May 2025
HERITAGE NEW ZEALAND
POUHERE TAONGA


Waimate North
Waimate North Road
Cooks Lane
Whakatāra Road
Waikaretāhu Road
FNDC Heritage Item
proposed Waimate expansion north
Waimate JBrown expansion
NZAA Archaeological Sites
FNDC Sites & Areas of Significance to Māori
FNDC Heritage Area
HNZPT Heritage List
NZ Aerial
Waimate North
Erin Hegberg - May 2025
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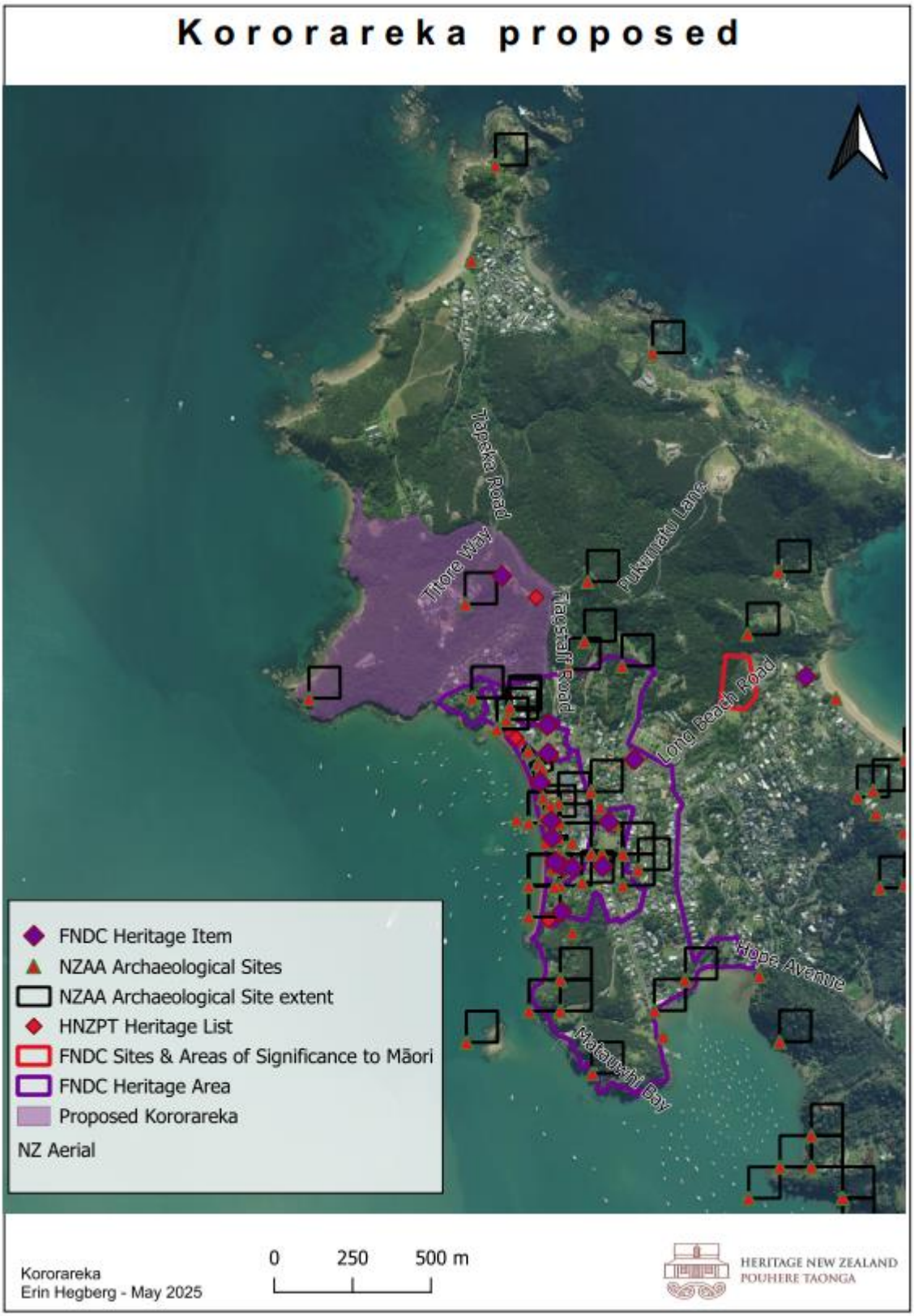
HERITAGE NEW ZEALAND
POUHERE TAONGA


Kororareka proposed
Tapeka Road
Titore Way
Flagstaff Road
Pukeruatu Lane
Long Beach Road
Hope Avenue
Matauwhi Bay
FNDC Heritage Item
NZAA Archaeological Sites
NZAA Archaeological Site extent
HNZPT Heritage List
FNDC Sites & Areas of Significance to Māori
FNDC Heritage Area
Proposed Kororareka
NZ Aerial
Kororareka
Erin Hegberg - May 2025
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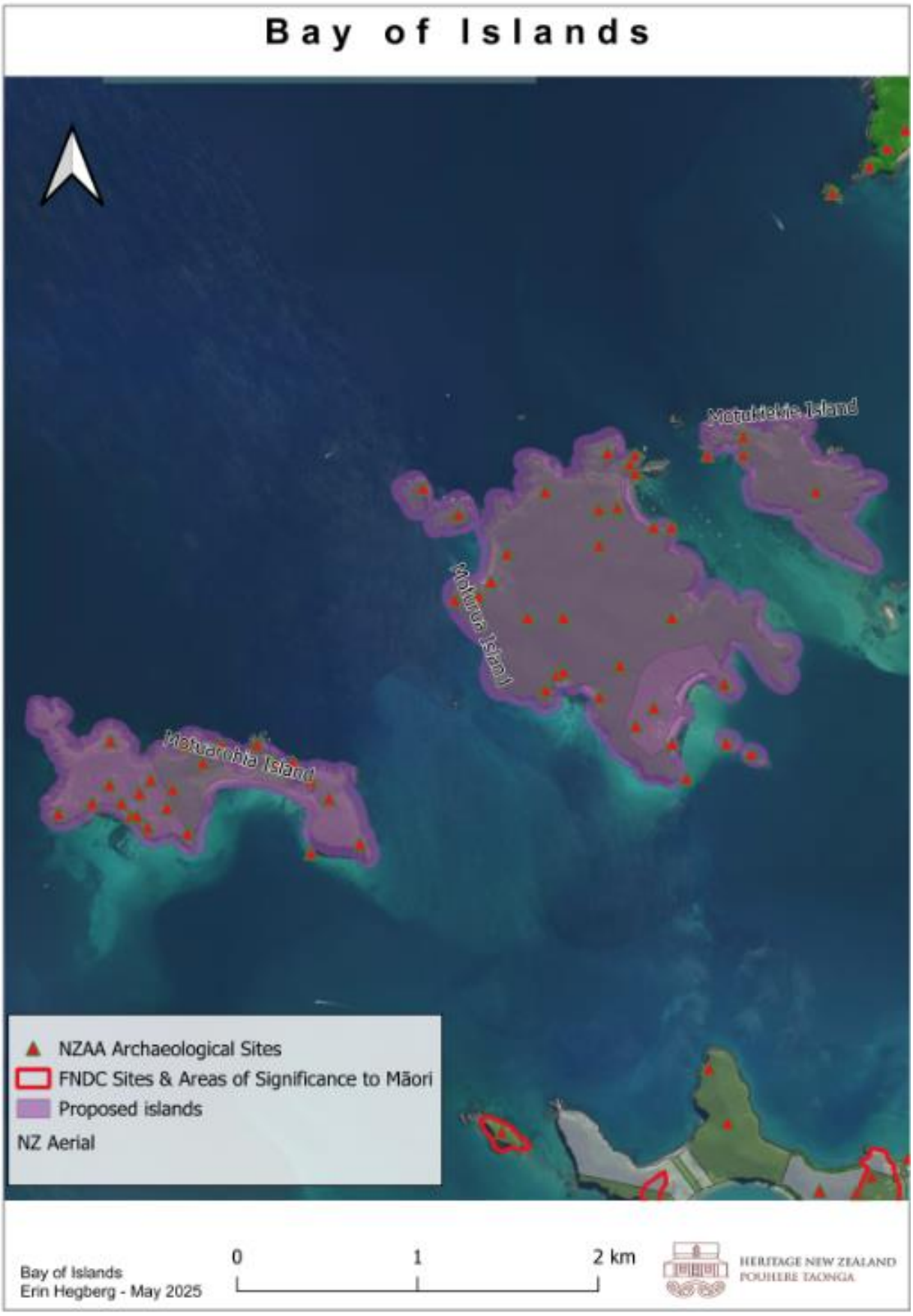
HERITAGE NEW ZEALAND
POUHERE TAONGA


Bay of Islands
Motukiekie Island
Motuarohia Island
NZAA Archaeological Sites
FNDC Sites & Areas of Significance to Māori
Proposed islands
NZ Aerial
Bay of Islands
Erin Hegberg - May 2025
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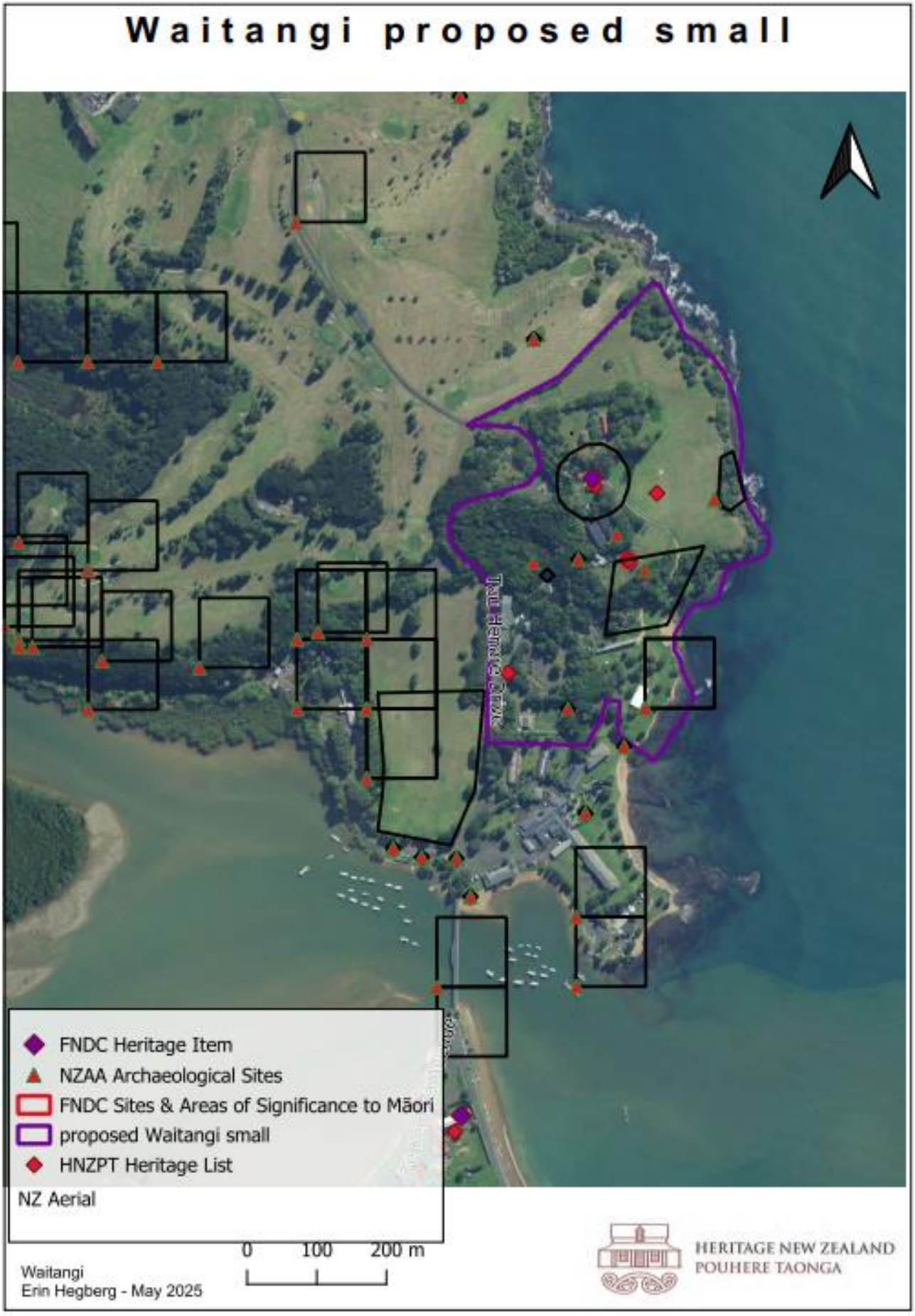
HERITAGE NEW ZEALAND
POUHERE TAONGA


Waitangi proposed small
FNDC Heritage Item
NZAA Archaeological Sites
FNDC Sites & Areas of Significance to Māori
proposed Waitangi small
HNZPT Heritage List
NZ Aerial
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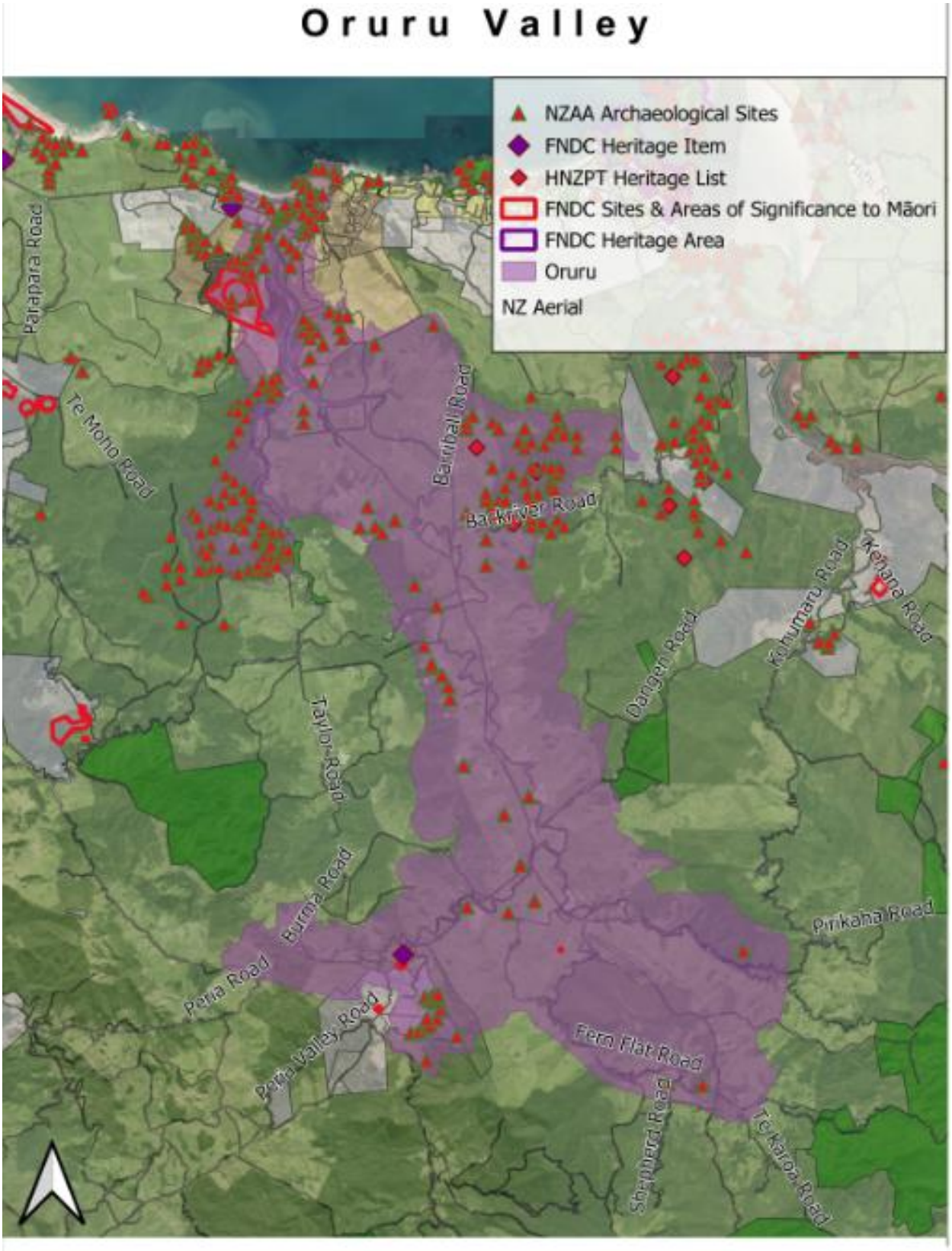
200 m
Waitangi
Erin Hegberg - May 2025
HERITAGE NEW ZEALAND
POUHERE TAONGA

Oruru Valley



Heritage Area Boundary Rationale

Heritage area	Boundary rationale
Kaeo option 1 (smaller)	Boundaries follow river and buffer around Pā (southern boundary), zones and topography (northern boundary)
Kaeo option 2 (larger)	Expanded to west and south to include archaeological sites and heritage features mentioned in initial HNZPT submission. Area along School Gully Road follows topographic lines and vegetation changes.
Kawakawa option 1 (larger)	Follows FNDC zone boundaries (mixed use zone)
Kawakawa option 2 (smaller)	Hybrid of 50 m buffer on rail line through central Kawakawa, with allowances for property lines, buildings, and waterways.
Kororāreka	Uses FNDC zones for coastline, southern boundary, Flagstaff Road for eastern boundary, property lines for northern boundary.
Oruru	Ridgelines, Oruru watershed (especially for Fern Flat section), topographic lines, mapped site density from NZAA and Johnson 1986
Rawene	Follows property boundaries along cemetery and hospital. Encompasses Barnell Street and street-shaped parcel on east side of cemetery reserve.
Waimate North option 1 (smaller)	Area indicated by initial HNZPT submission
Waimate North JB option (larger)	Used Section 42A report maps
Waitangi option 1 (smaller)	Follows extend of National Landmark.
Waitangi option 2 (larger)	Follows FNDC zones for southern and eastern coastline, property boundaries for western and northern boundaries, aims to encompass high density of recorded archaeological sites in area.
Islands (Motuarohia, Moturua, Motukiekie)	Uses FNDC zones to establish coastline, then a 50 m buffer added to accommodate intertidal zone and potential marine archaeology