

## Ngāi Tahu ki Murihiku Accidental Discovery Protocol

### 1) **Kōiwi accidental discovery**

If Kōiwi (human skeletal remains) are discovered, then work shall stop immediately and Te Ao Mārama Inc (Ngāi Tahu (Murihiku) Resource Management Consultants will be advised.

They will arrange a site inspection by the appropriate tāngata whenua and their advisers, including statutory agencies, who will determine whether the discovery is likely to be extensive and whether a thorough site investigation is required.

In recognition of Section 6 of the Resource Management Act (1991) and legal requirements under the Historic Places Act (1993) there is a requirement to consult the New Zealand Historical Places Trust when archaeological sites are disturbed without authorisation previously obtained. The New Zealand Police also need to be consulted if the discovery includes *kōiwi* or human remains.

Materials discovered will be handled and removed by iwi responsible for the tikanga appropriate to their removal or preservation.

### 2) **Taonga or artefact accidental discovery**

Taonga or artefact material (e.g. pounamu / greenstone artefacts) other than Kōiwi will be treated in a similar manner so that their importance can be determined and the environment recorded by qualified archaeologists alongside the appropriate tāngata whenua.

### 3) ***In-situ* (natural state) pounamu/greenstone accidental discovery**

Pursuant to the Ngāi Tahu (Pounamu Vesting) Act 1997, all natural state pounamu / greenstone in the Ngāi Tahu tribal area is owned by Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu. The Ngāi Tahu Pounamu Resource Management Plan provides for the following measure:

Ⓢ Any *in-situ* (natural state) pounamu/greenstone accidentally discovered should be reported to the Pounamu Management Officer of Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu as soon as is reasonably practicable. The Pounamu Management Officer of Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu will in turn contact the appropriate Kaitiaki Papatipu Rūnanga.

Ⓢ In the event that the finder considers the pounamu is at immediate risk of loss such as erosion, animal damage to the site or theft, the pounamu / greenstone should be carefully covered over and/or relocated to the nearest safe ground. The find should then be notified immediately to the Pounamu Management Officer.

Contact details for the Pounamu Management Officer are as follows:

Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu  
Level 7, Te Waipounamu House  
158 Hereford Street  
P O Box 13-046  
OTAUTAHI/CHRISTCHURCH

Phone: (03) 366 4344  
Fax: (03) 365 4424  
Web: [www.ngaitahu.iwi.nz](http://www.ngaitahu.iwi.nz)

Pounamu Management Officer  
Kaiwhakarite Tiaki Pounamu  
Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu



