

Matamata  
whitebait  
Port Waikato

q1 why important? sustainability

- whaanau/marae/hapuu/iwi
  - provide sustenance
  - put kai on the table
- equip tamariki
  - they should know why they doin' it
  - purpose/reason behind it
    - manaakitanga
    - a birthday, wedding, etc
- knowledge
  - pass on what we've been taught
  - so they can do the same
- give them the tools to ...
  - survive
  - live
  - teach
  - provide
- guarantee of supply
  - Poukai
  - Koroneihana
  - kaumaatua
    - no longer able to get it for themselves
    - haven't eaten it for a while
    - hanging-out for it
  - some families are known to be experts in harvesting/gathering certain kai
    - "specialists"
    - gives the family pride in what they do

q2 other species of local importance?

- tuna, kai moana
- close to coast
  - "mixing of waters" zone
  - a rock at the mouth
  - use to have kina's on it
  - sand build up now covers it
- catfish
  - v.hardy & tough species
  - they do similar damage as koi - similar size population too
  - good eating
- kanae
  - mullet
  - betw maramarua & meremere power station
  - fat around oct-nov
  - late spring/early summer

q3 features of a good hauanga site?

- "hauanga kai" not a term I grew up hearing - it was just something we did, like an activity
- main thing is the presence of "backwater" where the current turns back on itself and goes against the flow
- on true left - flow is anticlockwise, true right - clockwise
- shape of bank and contour
  - has to allow close access to the spot
- sandy/rocky bottom
- reasonably clear water
- at the "Elbow"
  - traditional w/bait site
  - deep hole
  - backwater
  - tidal influence
    - in the old days
      - outgoing current was v.strong
      - created a natural whirlpool
      - massive schools of w/bait would get trapped in it
        - can't escape the vortex
      - easy to catch as they came out at turn of tide
        - used a scoop net
    - quarrying at the Elbow has virtually destroyed this phenomenon
      - example of a landuse impact on a H.kai site
      - site still fished/used however
    - might also depend on the River itself
      - shifting sand banks
      - underwater changes

q4 what are the key influences on a site?

- backwater flow
  - eddy's
  - whirlpools
  - current travels against the flow
- adjacent land use
  - mining
  - farming
  - stock access to waterways
- regulations
  - density of batches & benches
    - population
    - services & infrastructure
  - method of catching
    - scoop net
    - pole net
    - set nets
- geomorphology
  - sand
  - bedrock
  - mud
  - contour of bank
    - shade
    - vegetation
  - sandbanks
- season
  - when the w/bait are on the move
  - time of migration
  - big king tides

q5 what tohu are used?

- see previous questions
- talk to Chris Annadale @ DOC
- the chief Te Horeta is represented on the kooruru (main carving) @ Te Awamaarahi Marae

q6 what tiikanga are used?

- Hay-bale project
  - with NIWA (Cindy Baker)
    - recreate spawning habitat
    - in the spring "king tide" zone
  - conducted at traditional fishing spots
  - straw spread around
  - spread over top of glyceria
  - bales broken down
  - try to smother it
  - w/bait don't like glyceria
- 2014 was a bumper w/bait season
  - not sure if it was due solely to the hay bale project
  - but thinks it helped
  - everywhere seemed to hve a good season
- season
  - mid Aug - end Nov
- tribe can issue permits if ...
  - needed for cultural purposes
  - out of season?
- do not waste kai
  - no taking just for the sake of it
- no littering
  - no rubbish left in the river
  - take it home with you
- Whakarite always done
  - first scoop - give it back - to Tangaroa
  - karakia used if something has happened, otherwise not so much
- raahui
  - marae enforced

q7 what would you like to know more about?

- do sandbanks have an influence on w/bait?
- how is adjacent land use affecting the w/bait population?
- are current regulations effective?
- what came of the 2009 study on resource consents for batches at the Port ?
- what impacts are multiple batches & benches having on the fishery?
- how prevalent is discharging untreated wastes into River?
- is allowing multiple benches sustainable?
- is there use sustainable?
- should set nets for w/baiting be banned ?
- where are the pollution point sources close to the River?
- why is the dumpsite at Tuakau - classed as clean fill?
- What is the Council plan re dredging from Rangiriri to the Port?
- is there a science model for relationship between sandbars and fish?
- does it address sandbar & navigation problems?