

PROCEEDINGS OF THE
**WORLD HERITAGE
MANAGERS WORKSHOP**

Tongariro National Park, New Zealand
26–30 October 2000



Department of Conservation
Te Papa Atawhai



Cover: Ngatoroirangi, a tohunga and navigator of the Arawa canoe, depicted rising from the crater to tower over the three sacred mountains of Tongariro National Park—Tongariro (foreground), Ngauruhoe, and Ruapehu (background). Photo montage: Department of Conservation, Turangi

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He Kupu Whakataki

Foreword

Whakarongo! Whakarongo!
Whakarongo taringa ki te wiriwiri
whenua o aku pae maunga tapu.
Titiro! Kei runga te rau abi o Ruaumoko.
Te wanawana! Te wehivēhi! Te tibi o
Tongariro. Kei raro, e muri abiabi nga
wai tuku kiri o Taupo-nui-a-Tia, te wai
he runga a kwi ma a koro ma kua webe atu
ki te po. Abaha!
Toi Maunga, Toi Moana.

Listen! Listen!
 The ear listens to the shaking of the
 land, of my most sacred mountains
 Look! See the plume of Ruaumoko.
 The awe! The majesty! Atop the crest
 of Tongariro. Below, past eventide the
 cleansing waters of Taupo-nui-a-Tia
 bathed and beautified my elders long
 passed into the night. But behold!
 The mountains remain, the sea remains

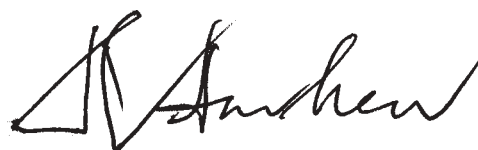
Tena koe—Greetings

It was a great pleasure for Ngati Tuwharetoa, Ngati Rangī, Mayor Weston Kirton, and staff of the Tongariro–Taupo Conservancy to welcome our visitors from the Asia-Pacific Region, on the eve of the World Heritage Site Managers Conference held in October 2000.

It gives me further pleasure to be invited to provide the foreword to this record of the proceedings of that event. Our people thoroughly enjoyed your company at Waihi marae, and I, later at the Sir Edmund Hillary Outdoor Pursuits Centre, listening to your very absorbing presentations. I take this opportunity to congratulate the Conservator, Paul Green and his team, for an extremely well run and organised event, and trust that you, the participants who will receive this record, concur with me. And I thank you for sharing your heritage with us.

On behalf of all our people of the Tongariro–Taupo Conservancy, I take this opportunity to wish you site managers, whichever country you come from, all the best in protecting the world's sacred heritage. May this record of the proceedings of The Tongariro Conference inspire you in that grand work.

Kia ora—Be well



Tumu Te Heuenu
Paramount Chief, Ngati Tuwharetoa



Hemi Kingi

These proceedings are dedicated to the memory of Hemi Kingi, who died peacefully in his sleep at his home, beneath the shadow of his sacred mountain, Tongariro, on the morning of 9 April 2001. Hemi was a key figure in the organisation and success of this World Heritage workshop and for so many issues that involved the role of indigenous peoples in taking an active part in the management of their heritage.

Hemi had been battling poor health for a number of years, but had resolutely refused to let it get in the way of the many things he wanted to achieve. Participants at the workshop will remember him for his rare blend of wisdom and humility, his willingness to listen and to encourage others in working towards positive solutions to difficult problems. They will also remember him for his warmth and friendship, and for entertaining skills with his trusty guitar.

He has achieved much, but had so much more to give. In New Zealand, he was helping to apply the lessons learned by his tribe, Ngati Tuwharetoa, in creating a productive partnership with the Crown over the management of the Tongariro National Park, to encourage other Maori to support the World Heritage concepts and the identification of other possible site nominations. Internationally, his work in facilitating the relationship between governments and indigenous peoples in managing our World Heritage was immensely respected. On the day before his untimely death, he had returned from Uluru (Australia's Ayres Rock) where he had been assisting the development of a World Heritage Indigenous People's Council Of Experts (WHIPCOE).

Hemi will be greatly missed, but I hope the inspiration he gave us will live on, so we can continue the fine work that he has begun.

Brian Sheppard



Workshop reflections

Enthusiastic management or management of enthusiasm. These are tensions that drive World Heritage management and that provided the underlying themes for this workshop.

Three presentations on the evaluation of World Heritage Management set the scene for examining the needs and possibilities for performance monitoring. Are we doing a good professional job and how do we make this assessment? Many of the presentations highlighted problems of balancing conservation needs with the pressures of public interest (tourism) and similar demands to extract an economic return. Others showed the difficulties faced by countries struggling to rebuild their socio-economic infrastructures and lacking the financial or technical capabilities to know what needs to be done and how it can be achieved. While all of these issues are of concern to developed countries, they are greatly magnified in countries with developing economies.

Lorentz National Park, in Irian Jaya provided a salutary lesson of the need for thorough preparation in the nomination of a World Heritage site. Here we heard that enthusiasm to have the site listed appeared to have led to inadequate preparation and attention to consultation with stakeholders, on how conflicting management needs of conservation and economic returns would be addressed. These problems could affect any country but, in Irian Jaya communication difficulties magnified the problems arising from a lack of appreciation of the potential difficulties and how they would be faced. These are lessons for all of us, whether we manage existing World Heritage properties or are nominating new ones.

At the plenary session and closure of the workshop, participants summarised the most pressing issues that they wished to have discussed at the next regional workshop. These related to the significance of World Heritage to indigenous peoples, how they can maintain a meaningful role in the management of their heritage and how they, and the wider community, can receive an economic return from World Heritage listing.

The process of editing these workshop proceedings has caused me to reflect again on the messages that we received at this gathering. While I share the feelings expressed in that plenary session, of the need to give further consideration to the roles of indigenous peoples, the messages contained in the papers remind us of the broader context in which many of the indigenous peoples' issues are set. The clearest messages here relate to the need to maintain the highest professional standards in all aspects of World Heritage management (including the need to identify and work closely with stakeholders in every aspect of our work), and the need to address the problems that emerge when those standards cannot be maintained.

This World Heritage Site Managers' workshop was well organised and so ran very smoothly, generating feedback from participants that it was a very worthwhile event. For this, everyone involved extends their very grateful thanks to our 'sponsors'—UNESCO's World Heritage Centre, the Environment Agency of Japan, the Department of Conservation, and the very many smaller sponsors that assisted the Tongariro–Taupo Conservancy to add so many personal touches to the gathering. Having this framework of support in place, the participants really did participate. In summary, it was a great example of what can be achieved in the pursuit of excellence in World Heritage management.

The guidance provided by workshops such as this and the networks of support that emerge from them offer considerable hope for the future. The encouraging note from this workshop is that the Region's World Heritage managers are in great heart to tackle these challenges.

Brian Sheppard

