

## **Okapu F2 Trust Monthly Report: MAY 2020**

The unprecedented pace at which this global pandemic has spread around the world is rapid, COVID19 has wreaked havoc of people's lives and the economy. When we look back to early March, New Zealand was preparing itself by closing its borders, advising all over 70s to self-isolate and then the entire country went into nationwide lockdown for four weeks on 25 March 2020.

During this period, we all spent time in our bubbles to help safe guard the most vulnerable and to play our part in slowing down the virus. Through our collective efforts we have all helped save lives. We should all be proud of what we have achieved. Now the focus is on returning back to some form of normality, work, school and getting the economy moving again.

Budget 2020 which the Government will unveil on 14 May 2020 has been dubbed the "mother of all budgets" The Budget will also give a much clearer picture of the impact on economic growth, unemployment and government debt during this pandemic.

On 12 March 2020, the Government declared a large-scale adverse drought event affecting: all of the North Island, the top of the South Island (Marlborough, Tasman, Kaikōura) down to North Canterbury (Selwyn District, Christchurch City (including Banks Peninsula), Waimakariri District, Hurunui District, and Kaikōura District) and the Chatham Islands.

This means that financial assistance is available to farmers. The 2020 Drought Recovery Advice Fund is to help farmers recover from the 2020 drought, and plan for future droughts. It will pay for professional advice to a maximum of \$5,000 (excluding GST). The fund is capped at \$500,000 (excluding GST).

<https://www.mpi.govt.nz/protection-and-response/responding/adverse-events/support-during-a-drought/2020-drought-recovery-advice-fund/>

Ruby (Farm Consultant) has applied for this grant on behalf of the Trust, and if approved this will be used to fund further professional advisory services to support the Trustees in managing the effects of the drought. Areas of support such as stock water best practice, feed management systems, strategic planning, including farm business and whole farm plans, land management and sustainable management techniques, analysis of farm systems, risk and recovery management, business continuity, modelling farm system change scenarios, alternate land-use options, technical advice on soil, pastures, animal production, or feed budgeting, financial planning, decision support or farm accounts analysis.

Throughout the entire duration of lockdown from alert level 4 to current, our farming operations continued as we were classed as an essential service under Primary Industries due to animal welfare and food production. During this time, some of the work undertaken on the farm included stock cartage to the meat works, sheep shearing and veterinary visits. During this period the Trust also purchased a

number of extra cattle, R2 Angus Simmental cross and Angus Hereford yearlings which should yield some healthy returns when they are ready for sale.

We are fortunate that due to our geographical nature, we are somewhat isolated and our employees were able to continue to work in safety.

We move to alert level 2 at 11.59 on 13 May 2020 and with this comes a little more sense of freedom, the opportunity to expand our bubbles, to visit family, returning back to work, restaurants, cafes and retail shops return to begin trading. This will be a welcome relief for many of us and it's important to remember the following advice from the Ministry of Health which will help ensure we all stay safe and well during this transition period.

**Play it safe:**

- COVID-19 is still out there. Play it safe.
- Keep your distance from other people in public.
- If you're sick, stay home. Don't go to work or school. Don't socialise.
- If you have symptoms of cold or flu call your doctor or Health line and get advice about being tested.
- Wash your hands. Wash your hands. Wash your hands.
- Sneeze and cough into your elbow, regularly disinfect surfaces.
- If you have been told to self-isolate you must do so immediately.
- Keep a track of where you've been and who you've seen.

**Special General Meeting (SGM):**

At the 2019 Annual General Meeting of owners, a resolution was passed to call a SGM following the annual 'Poukai rounds'. The SGM was to be for the purpose of amending the Trust deed and to resolve other matters.

Unfortunately due the Covid-19 and government restrictions on numbers in gatherings, it was decided to postpone the SGM until alert level restrictions have eased, a post on our Facebook page on 17 March 2020 advised owners of this postponement. This means that a SGM will be still be scheduled and date and time in the not too distant future once social gathering number restrictions have eased (currently no more than 10 people for gatherings, events or public venues under alert level 2)

**2019 AGM outstanding matters:**

There are a number of outstanding matters which were passed by resolution at the 2019 AGM. Due to level 3&4 lockdown, the Trustees have been unable to address

these issues. These matters are now currently under progress and the Trustees will provide owners with an update in the June monthly report on the progress. Once all outstanding matters have been resolved, then a copy of the 2019 AGM minutes will be disseminated for owner's perusal and these minutes will remain in DRAFT until ratified at this year's AGM.

### **Ookapu Marae:**

In 2022 Ookapu Marae will celebrate its 125<sup>th</sup> Poukai anniversary. The Ookapu Poukai started at Raoraokauere during the 1890's and in 1897 it was brought to Ookapu. Ookapu celebrated its 100<sup>th</sup> year poukai in 1997, multitudes of people attended, including the Maori Queen Dame Te Arikinui Te Atairangikaahu and the event was televised by way of documentary by Miki Apiti at the time who was working at Waka Huia. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bRkqWE2Lb9k>

Ookapu Marae are currently in the process of a major Marae rebuild / re-development project. The Marae Trustees have engaged Aladina Harunani from Apa Architects as Project Manager for this rebuild (profile can be found at <https://apaarchitect.com/> or <https://www.facebook.com/apamaoridevelopments/> )

3D designs have been completed and the Marae are in the next stages of the development.

To mark this historic occasion, a new Marae and facilities will be completed and opened on 14 March 2022 at the 125th Poukai and we encourage all owners to be in attendance to mark this momentous event.

The following is the work that is to be completed for the new Marae buildings.

1. **Wharepaku**- to be replaced with new
2. **Wharenui** – to be restored and upgraded
3. **Wharekai** – to be replaced
4. **Waharoa** -to be upgraded / replaced
5. **Pae/ Kaumatua space** - new building
6. **Manuhiri seating** - to be upgraded/replaced
7. **Atea** upgraded
8. **Infrastructure** – waste water, storm water and power - to be upgraded

Okapu F2 Trustees have received a formal letter from the Ookapu Marae Trustees requesting a grant / funding to support in the new Ookapu Maree re-build. The Okapu F2 Trustees are encouraged by the fact the Marae Trustees have a long term vision for Ngati Te Wehi and these facilities form part of that process for the betterment of the people. The new Marae facilities will ensure that Ookpau Marae,

Ngati Te Wehi are prepared for the future. This rebuild may even provide employment opportunities for the people.

The current Okapu F2 Trust deed page 4 section 14 reads *“To Make Grants for Maori Community Purposes: To make grants for Maori community purposes as set out in the Section 218 of Te Ture Whenua Maori Act 1993 subject to the amount allocated for any such grant or grants to be first approved at annual general meeting of the Trust”*

Section 218 of the act provides provisions on what grants can be provided for such as for the promotion of social, cultural, and economic welfare, by making grants or loans towards the cost of the construction, establishment, management, maintenance, repair, or improvement of Maori meeting houses, halls, churches and church halls, kohanga reo, villages, marae, or cemeteries; etc.

This request for a grant to Ookapu Marae, requires owners approval and this topic will be tabled at the AGM / SGM for owners to decide.

We encourage all owners to be in attendance for this discussion and we'll provide more details of the AGM / SGM once alert level restrictions ease.

*\*Note: It is to be noted that James Mahara has declared and registered his conflict of interest in this matter with the Okapu F2 Trustees, as he is a current Ookapu Marae Trustee.*

### **Technology:**

During lockdown the Trustees have been utilising zoom to hold its monthly Trust board meetings. A few teething problems at the beginning with new technology, however these zoom meetings have been valuable and necessary to enable to Trustees to continue to meet regularly and maintain our duties and responsibilities. The Trustees have also invited guest speakers to these zoom meetings and we'll continue to utilise this form of technology as we move forward. The next Trust board meeting in June will be face to face and the Trustees are excited in being able to meet in person.

### **Website:**

Our new website is now in operation, here you will find profiles on each of our Trustees, employees and our Team of professional experts.

You will also find monthly reports (Nov 2018 AGM, and Chair report April 2020 others to be uploaded in due course), upcoming events and details about the formation of how Okapu F2 Trust was created.

The website will assist the Trustees in our duties to ensure we keep owners updated on the affairs of the Trust and business and help owners to connect and reconnect to their whenua.

In celebration of our new website we have created a website TREASURE HUNT competition. Enter to win a mystery prize pack to the value of \$100!

All entries need to be emailed in, use the subject "TREASURE HUNT" in the subject line (copy the below questions into an email) and send us your answers. You can find out how to contact us via our website.

Hint: answers can be found on our website

### **Questions**

1. Who is the farm consultant?
2. In what year did Tom Herbert retire?
3. In what year was the Certificate of Title issued?
4. What date is the 2020 Okapu F2 Trust Annual General Meeting (AGM?)
5. Name one of the 2 newest Trustees elected at the AGM in November 2019.
6. What is your name?
7. Are you a registered owner? YES/NO  
If no, how do you whakapapa to Okapu F2 (no more than 20 words)
8. If you are a registered owner, please provide your postal address so that we can update our share register.

### **Conditions**

*Open to all registered owners, their children and grandchildren who reside in NZ (sorry to our Aussie whanau, the prize is unable to be posted)*

*Prize value = \$100.00*

*Only 1 entry per person*

*Entries by EMAIL only*

*Trustees or employees are ineligible to enter*

*Competition closes Sunday 31/05/20 and winner will be drawn at the Trustee Hui on 07/06/20 and will be video recorded and posted on our Facebook page. Judge's decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into.*

### **Owners Share register:**

Page 10 section 34 of the Okapu F2 Trust deed states that The Trustees shall keep a register of owners. If you are an owner, we encourage you to provide your postal address, so that we may update the share register and to ensure that we keep you updated on important matters or notification of meetings.

If you take part in the quiz above and send in your postal address (if you're an owner) then you're in the draw to win an easy \$100 mystery prize, just for answering a few simple questions and sending us your address details.

**Strategic Planning:**

The Trustees are scheduled to undertake part 2 of the Strategic Planning workshop Sun 5<sup>th</sup> July with Gary and Kiri from Community Waikato. We encourage owners to share their thoughts, visions, feedback and ideas with us as these will assist us as we undertake part 2 of this strategic plan.

Watch this space as more details will be provided at the AGM later in the year.

**Maori Land Court:**

James, Patrick and Phillip are still yet to be sworn in at the Maori Land court. The April court hearing was postponed due to COVID-19 and being in lockdown. At the time of writing this report the Maori Land Court is still closed and we will provide an update on this outcome in the June Chairman report.

**Resignation:**

It is with a sadness that we announce the recent resignation of Claude Apiti as Trustee of Okapu F2 Trust effective from 16 April 2020. Claude has been a valued member of the Trust board and throughout his term in office he has provided valuable advice, ideas and suggestions to help grow the Trust for the benefit of all owners. Claude has resigned due to personal circumstances.

On behalf of the Trust, I would like to acknowledge and thank Claude for his commitment and dedication to the Trust and owners. Claude will still be involved in the Trust as an owner and we wish him and his whanau the best for their future endeavours.

This means that Trustee elections will take place at the SGM / AGM and will be advertised once we confirm details.

**Progress Plan:**

The following timeline is to assist in the planning process:

May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Engage Farm consultant = COMPLETED	Outstanding AGM matters resolved	Strategic planning session part 2	SGM (dependent on alert level)	Logo Competition closes.	Trustee's pre AGM planning day.	AGM and logo voting	
Engage Lawyer = COMPLETED	Portfolios operational	Logo Competition commence					
Okapu F2 website operational = COMPLETED	MLC Hearing (TBC)						
Weekly Round Up Operational = still in progress							

Report completed by:



James Mahara

Chairman

Okapu F2 Trust

14/05/2020