

## Maranga Ake Ai Timeline Index

This document is meant to accompany and provide more explanation for the visual timeline of events leading to Maranga Ake Ai: Re-storying Predator Free 2050. While we believe we have the dates of the events right, some mistakes are possible due to varying sources of dates. If you believe that there is a mistake in this document on a date or description, please [contact us](#) and we will do our best to correct it.

1. **1000s: Māori arrive to Aotearoa**
  - Early Māori ancestors arrive, bringing with them our taonga, such as kūmara, kiore, and kurī.
2. **1400s: Final stages of extinction of the Moa**
  - The Moa became extinct due to overhunting and habitat loss. This lesson remains an integral part of our heritage, serving both as a historical account and a cautionary tale that transformed our relationship with our taonga.
3. **1790s: Sealers and whalers arrive, bringing with them the Norwegian rat**
  - European sealers and whalers arrived in New Zealand, inadvertently introducing the Norwegian rat, which had significant ecological impacts.
4. **1800s: Gorse introduced as a hedging plant and rabbits introduced**
  - European settlers introduced gorse as a hedging plant and rabbits for hunting, both of which became invasive species causing environmental issues.
5. **1835: He Whakaputanga signed, the Norwegian rat population explodes in Bay of Islands**
  - He Whakaputanga (Declaration of Independence) was signed by northern Māori chiefs, asserting Māori sovereignty. Around this time, the Norwegian rat population surged in the Bay of Islands.
  - Note to illustrators: Illustrate the signing of He Whakaputanga with a background indicating the surge in the Norwegian rat population, perhaps showing rats infiltrating the area around the gathering of chiefs.
6. **1837: Australian brush-tailed possum arrives**
  - The Australian brush-tailed possum was introduced to New Zealand for its fur. They were taken from Aboriginal nations without their consent and later became a major pest affecting native forests and wildlife.
7. **1840: Te Tiriti o Waitangi signed**
  - Te Tiriti o Waitangi (The Treaty of Waitangi) was signed between rangatira of hapū and the British Crown, establishing a foundational document for New Zealand's governance and reaffirming Māori rights.
8. **1840s: European settlers arrive in significant numbers**
  - European settlers began arriving in large numbers, leading to significant changes in land use, ecology, and Māori society.
9. **1844: First education assimilation policies introduced**
  - The first policies aimed at assimilating Māori into European education systems were introduced, significantly impacting Māori culture and language.
10. **1858: Formation of the Kīngitanga Movement**
  - The Kīngitanga (Māori King Movement) was established to unify Māori under a single sovereign and protect land and sovereignty from further European encroachment.
11. **1861: First acclimatisation society in Auckland**
  - The first acclimatisation society was established in Auckland, followed by others in Whanganui, Nelson, Otago, and Canterbury, existing for 130 years.
12. **1862 and 1865: Native Lands Act**

- The 1862 Act was the initial attempt to individualise Māori land ownership and facilitate direct sales, but it was not highly effective due to resistance and practical challenges. The 1865 Act built on the previous act with more structured and enforceable provisions, resulting in a more systematic and effective (though often detrimental for Māori) process of converting communal land into individual titles and transferring it to settlers. These acts set up the Native Land Court. Land owned by rebels was considered Crown land, therefore it was referred to as “Te kōti tango whenua” (the land-taking court).
- 13. **1863: New Zealand Settlement Act**
  - The New Zealand Settlement Act facilitated the confiscation of Māori land for European settlement, significantly impacting Māori land ownership and livelihoods.
- 14. **1861-1919: Red and Fallow Deer introduced**
  - Both were introduced by the acclimatisation societies for hunting purposes.
- 15. **1867: Protection of Animals Act**
  - The Protection of Animals Act was introduced to regulate the treatment and protection of animals (in line with settler values) banned traditional methods, in replacement for shooting. This legislation significantly impacted Māori by inhibiting traditional hunting and cultural harvest methods of taonga species such as kererū.
- 16. **1867: Salmon and Trout Act**
  - The first in a series of Animal Protection Acts, this legislation aimed to regulate the introduction and management of salmon and trout in New Zealand waters.
- 17. **1867-1970: Kea beak bounties**
  - Between 1867 and 1970, cash rewards were given for kea beaks, leading to an estimated 150,000 kea killed. The bounties, funded by the New Zealand government, were due to the kea’s reputation as “killer parrots.” Hunters used various methods, including poisoning bait and injuring captured kea to attract others. Many juvenile kea were killed. Full legal protection for kea wasn't enacted until 1986. Today, the government spends money on their conservation, with 3,000 to 7,000 kea remaining.
- 18. **1870s: Rabbit Nuisance Act, ferrets introduced to control possums**
  - The Rabbit Nuisance Act aimed to control the rabbit population or as noted in the Act, it granted the “power to destroy rabbits on Crown land”. Ferrets were introduced to combat rabbits, despite warnings about their potential harm to native bird-life.
- 19. **1872: Establishment of Yellowstone National Park**
  - Yellowstone National Park was established in the United States, marking the beginning of the modern conservation movement, driven initially by hunters seeking to preserve game for future use.
- 20. **1875: Extinction of the Koreke (New Zealand Quail)**
  - The New Zealand Quail became extinct due to overhunting and the result of agricultural conversion of grasslands. The story of Koreke underscores the impacts of human activities on our native bird populations and the need for sustainable practices.
- 21. **1884: State Forest Act**
  - Establishing ownership and control over forest lands. The Act aimed to designate certain areas as state forests and set regulations for their management and use. It provided the government with the authority to oversee these forests, ensuring their conservation and sustainable use to prevent deforestation and misuse of forest resources.
- 22. **1885: Stoats and weasels liberated in a misguided attempt to control rabbits**
  - Stoats and weasels were released in New Zealand in an unsuccessful effort to manage the rabbit population, leading to severe impacts on native birds.

23. **1887: Peaks of Tongariro gifted by Horonuku Te Heuheu**
  - Horonuku Te Heuheu, Ngāti Tūwharetoa, gifted the peaks of Tongariro, Ngāuruhoe, and Ruapehu to the Crown as a sacred place, forming the nucleus of Tongariro National Park in 1894.
24. **1890s: Government designated mustelid-free island sanctuaries**
  - Resolution Island in Fiordland, Little Barrier Island (Hauraki Gulf), and Kāpiti Island were designated as mustelid-free sanctuaries to protect native wildlife.
25. **1890s to 1907: Museum trade for huia feathers and specimen**
  - The trade in huia feathers became prolific in the late 1800s and early 1900s, reaching its peak around 1901 when the Duke of York was photographed wearing a huia feather during his visit to New Zealand. This increased the feather's popularity among Pākehā, leading to overhunting. The huia became extinct shortly after, with the last confirmed sighting in 1907. This trade exemplifies the impact of colonial exploitation on native species.
26. **Late 1800s: Extinction of the Tutukiwi (South Island Snipe)**
  - Tutukiwi became extinct following the ship rat invasion of Taukihepa. The loss of Tutukiwi highlights the vulnerability of our native species to external threats and underscores the importance of protecting our unique biodiversity.
27. **1903: The Scenery Preservation Act**
  - The Scenery Preservation Act of 1903 was instrumental in establishing scenic reserves but also facilitated the compulsory acquisition of land, including Māori land, often without adequate consultation or consideration of Māori cultural values. This led to significant discontent and grievances among Māori communities.
28. **1905: Te reo Māori banned in schools**
  - The use of te reo Māori was banned in schools, contributing to the decline of the Māori language and cultural identity.
29. **1907: Tohunga Suppression Act and last sighting of the huia**
  - The Tohunga Suppression Act aimed to suppress traditional Māori healing practices. It was repealed in 1962, recognising its detrimental impact on Māori culture. The huia became extinct around 1907 due to overhunting for its feathers and habitat destruction.
30. **1913: Royal Commission on Forestry**
  - The Royal Commission on Forestry recommended clearing forests for farmland, leading to the formation of the New Zealand Forest Service and widespread pine planting.
31. **1914: Extinction of the whēkau (laughing owl)**
  - The whēkau was last confirmed seen in 1914 and likely became extinct due to predation by introduced species and habitat loss. Whēkau's disappearance illustrates the ongoing challenges of preserving our native wildlife in the face of introduced predators.
32. **1920s to 1950s: Incentives for shooting kāhu and kārearea**
  - The kāhu and kārearea faced persecution as early settlers saw them as threats to livestock and game birds. Bounties were offered for their eradication, continuing into the mid-20th century. These bounties reflect early conservation challenges where native species were often seen as pests.
33. **1923: Native Bird Protection Society formed**
  - The Native Bird Protection Society, later becoming Forest and Bird, was formed to advocate for conservation and protect native bird species.
34. **1928: First Māori Minister Tā Apirana Ngata**
  - Tā Apirana Ngata became the first Māori Minister, marking a significant milestone in Māori political representation.

**35. 1934: Native Plants Protection Act**

- The Native Plants Protection Act aimed to protect native plants from over-exploitation. While intended for conservation, it restricted Māori from using native plants for traditional medicinal, ceremonial, and other cultural purposes.

**36. 1940s: Waipoua Forest Sanctuary established**

- Waipoua Forest Sanctuary was established and later became a national park, often conflicting with the goals of the New Zealand Forest Service.

**37. 1950s: Five national parks established**

- Tongariro, Egmont, Fiordland, Arthur's Pass, and Abel Tasman national parks were established, highlighting the expansion of protected areas. Māori were largely excluded from the early processes of establishing national parks and suffered significant land loss as a result.

**38. 1951: Māori Women's Welfare League established**

- The Māori Women's Welfare League (MWWL) was established, promoting the welfare of Māori women and their families.

**39. 1952: National Parks Authority set up**

- The National Parks Authority was established to oversee the management of national parks, ensuring their protection and public enjoyment. Māori did not have a significant role in this process, as the Crown primarily made decisions without substantial consultation or involvement of Māori communities, who had historical and cultural ties to the land. It is believed that this authority targeted pristine Māori lands for others to use recreationally.

**40. 1953 Wildlife Act**

- The Wildlife Act was enacted to provide protection for wildlife, but it imposed restrictions on the cultural harvest of native species by Māori. This Act further limited Māori access to traditional food sources and cultural practices involving taonga species.

**41. 1960s: National Party includes conservation in election manifesto**

- The National Party became the first political party to include a conservation section in its election manifesto, reflecting growing environmental awareness.

**42. 1965: Ten national parks and 1300 reserves**

- By 1965, New Zealand had ten national parks and 1300 reserves, including the Kermadec and Subantarctic Islands, demonstrating significant progress in conservation. The creation of these protected areas typically involved the government making unilateral decisions without substantial consultation or involvement of Māori communities.

**43. 1971 Marine Reserves Act**

- The Marine Reserves Act established marine reserves to protect marine biodiversity. These reserves restricted fishing and gathering of marine resources, impacting Māori customary rights and traditional practices.

**44. 1972: Te Petihana Reo Māori delivered to Parliament**

- Te Petihana Reo Māori was delivered to Parliament on September 14, 1972. More than 30,000 people signed the petition, which was organised by Ngā Tamatoa and the Te Reo Māori Society. The petition called for the active recognition of te reo Māori and its inclusion in the school curriculum. This historic event marked the beginning of Māori Language Day, which later expanded into Māori Language Week. Māori involvement was pivotal, with university groups and kaumātua supporting the initiative.

**45. 1975: Land Back March**

- The Land Back March, led by Whina Cooper, took place in 1975. The march was a significant demonstration advocating for the return of Māori land that had been

confiscated or unjustly taken. The slogan of the march was "Not one more acre," symbolising the demand for the restitution of land and the acknowledgment of Māori land rights. The event was a pivotal moment in the Māori land rights movement, drawing attention to historical grievances and the need for justice.

46. **1975: Waitangi Tribunal established**
  - The Waitangi Tribunal was established to address breaches of Te Tiriti o Waitangi, providing a mechanism for Māori to seek redress for grievances.
47. **1976: New Zealand becomes signatory to Ramsar Convention and first (Waituna Lagoon) of seven wetlands in New Zealand to be given Ramsar status**
  - New Zealand signed the Ramsar Convention, an international treaty for the conservation and sustainable use of wetlands, with Waituna Lagoon becoming the first Ramsar site in New Zealand.
48. **1977: Reserves Act**
  - The Reserves Act was enacted to provide for the acquisition, control, and management of reserves for the purpose of conservation, education, and public enjoyment.
49. **1980: National Parks Act**
  - The National Parks Act was established to consolidate and amend the law relating to national parks, ensuring the protection and preservation of these areas for public benefit. This Act reinforced the framework for managing national parks, but like earlier conservation laws, it often did not include significant Māori involvement in decision-making processes. The management of these parks typically did not recognise the cultural and spiritual significance of the land to Māori communities.
50. **1987: Conservation Act and the establishment of DOC**
  - The Conservation Act was enacted to promote the conservation of New Zealand's natural and historic resources. The Department of Conservation (DOC) was established to manage public conservation land, much of which was previously Māori land acquired through the Settlement Act.
51. **1987: Te Taura Whiri i te Reo Māori (Māori Language Commission) established**
  - Te Taura Whiri i te Reo Māori was established to promote the use of te reo Māori and to ensure its revitalisation and preservation.
52. **1990s: Acclimatisation societies became regional fish and game councils**
  - Acclimatisation societies were restructured and renamed as regional fish and game councils, collectively known as Fish & Game New Zealand, focusing on the management of fish and game resources.
53. **1991: Wai 262 claim lodged**
  - The Wai 262 claim, registered as the 262nd claim with the Waitangi Tribunal, was lodged on October 9, 1991, by six claimants on behalf of themselves and their iwi. The claim addresses the place of Māori culture, identity, and traditional knowledge in New Zealand's laws, government policies, and practices, focusing on who controls Māori traditional knowledge, artistic and cultural works, and the environment that created Māori culture.
54. **1992: Māori Fisheries Settlement**
  - The Māori Fisheries Settlement was reached, compensating Māori for historical grievances related to fishing rights and allocating significant fishing assets to Māori. The first Māori Treaty Settlement.
55. **1993: Mataatua Declaration on Cultural and Intellectual Property Rights of Indigenous Peoples**
  - The Mataatua Declaration was adopted, emphasising the protection of Indigenous cultural and intellectual property rights.

56. **1993: Biosecurity Act**
  - The Biosecurity Act was enacted to provide a framework for the exclusion, eradication, and effective management of pests and unwanted organisms.
57. **1996: Hazardous Substances and New Organisms (HSNO) Act**
  - The HSNO Act was established to protect the environment and the health and safety of people by preventing or managing the adverse effects of hazardous substances and new organisms.
58. **2011: Ko Aotearoa Tēnei report**
  - The Waitangi Tribunal released the Ko Aotearoa Tēnei report, addressing the Wai 262 claim related to the protection of Māori cultural and intellectual property rights.
59. **2012: Forest and Bird, DOC, regional councils, researchers, and others met at a hui, during which the idea of a predator-free New Zealand was born**
  - A collaborative hui (meeting) among various organisations and researchers led to the conceptualisation of a predator-free New Zealand.
60. **2013: Game Animal Council Act**
  - The Game Animal Council Act established the Game Animal Council to manage hunting of big game species in New Zealand.
61. **2014: Te Urewera Act**
  - The Te Urewera Act granted legal personhood to the Te Urewera area, recognising its intrinsic value and establishing a framework for its protection and management.
62. **2016: Prime Minister John Key announced Government commitment to achieve a Predator Free New Zealand by 2050 and established the Predator Free 2050 programme as well as the company, Predator Free 2050 Limited**
  - The New Zealand Government committed to the Predator Free 2050 goal, establishing a dedicated programme and company to lead the initiative.
63. **2017: Te Awa Tupua (Whanganui River) Act**
  - The Te Awa Tupua Act recognised the Whanganui River as a legal person with its own rights and interests, reflecting a unique approach to environmental protection.
64. **2018: The Supreme Court's decision in Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki v Minister of Conservation**
  - The Supreme Court ruled in favour of Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki, recognising the importance of iwi (tribal) input in conservation decisions.
65. **2020: Jobs for Nature funding introduced as part of the COVID-19 recovery package**
  - The New Zealand Government introduced Jobs for Nature funding to create employment opportunities in conservation as part of the COVID-19 recovery efforts.
66. **2020: The Predator Free 2050 Strategy – Towards Predator Free New Zealand - and the programme's first action plan, 2020-2025, were launched in March**
  - The Predator Free 2050 Strategy and its first action plan were launched, outlining steps to achieve a predator-free New Zealand by 2050.
67. **2020: Public Service Act enacted**
  - The Public Service Act was enacted, requiring public services to support the Crown's obligations under Te Tiriti o Waitangi, improving outcomes for Māori.
68. **2020: Establishment of the PF2050 Collaborative groups**
  - Collaborative groups were established for each of the six pathways in the Towards a Predator Free strategy to coordinate and set the direction for implementation, captured in action plans.
69. **2021: Options Development Group Report on the future of conservation and predator control**
  - The Options Development Group released a report providing recommendations on the future of conservation and predator control in New Zealand.
70. **2022: Establishment of Te Rōpū Kaitiakitanga**

- Initially set up as the Kaitiakitanga Agency Group, this collaborative group was established under the Whānau, hapū, and iwi expressing kaitiakitanga pathway. This group was established to also include those at place.
- 71. **2022: Matariki officially became a public holiday**
  - Matariki, the Māori New Year, was recognised as a public holiday, celebrating the rise of the Matariki star cluster and Māori culture.
- 72. **2023: Work begins on Maranga Ake Ai**
  - Maranga Ake Ai commissioned by Te Rōpū Kaitiakitanga and starts with interviewing leading Māori experts, thought leaders, and kaitiaki in conservation, pest eradication, and environmental management.
- 73. **2023: Te Whare Māta o Ngā Kīrearea, Ōtautahi Māori-led Predator Free initiatives collectively meet and work on Maranga Ake Ai**
  - A collaborative effort by various Māori-led predator-free initiatives in Ōtautahi to work on Maranga Ake Ai.
- 74. **2024: Inaugural Kura Reo Taiao hosted by Ngāti Tarawhai**
  - The first Kura Reo Taiao held, funded and organised by PF2050 and Te Tira Whakamātaki, leading to the development of Predator Free Reo Guidelines.
- 75. **2024: (Re)storying the possum wānanga**
  - At this wānanga, Aboriginal Possum Cloak makers were invited to restory the possum. Māori-led initiatives had an opportunity.
- 76. **2024: Releasing Maranga Ake Ai**