

<b>Title</b>	<b>Explain mahinga kai in relation to the way Māori connect to, and use taonga of, the taiao</b>		
<b>Level</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>Credits</b>	<b>6</b>

<b>Purpose</b>	People credited with this unit standard are able to explain: mahinga kai in relation to how Māori connect to the taiao; mahinga kai in relation to how Māori use taonga of the taiao; and mahinga kai activities in relation to the maramataka.
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<b>Classification</b>	Whenua > Te Whakamahi Whenua
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<b>Available grade</b>	Achieved
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### Guidance Information

- 1 Where the local rohe is occupied by a number of iwi or hapū, the tangata whenua or mana whenua view should take precedence. Other iwi or hapū views should be encouraged in order to enrich and enhance understanding of key Māori concepts and practices
- 2 Important Māori geographic concepts applicable to this unit standard include:
 

*Mahinga kai* – activities are not only important for sustaining life. They are also important for local iwi and hapū identity and mana. Food gathering practices are an important aspect of the way Māori interact with the taiao (environment, natural world). Māori use of taonga of the taiao has always been tempered by the way Māori perceive their place in the taiao. Manaaki manuhiri is also an important aspect of mahinga kai.

*Mātauranga taiao* – environmental and geographical (whānau, hapū, and iwi) knowledge systems, including significant locations, landmarks, territorial boundaries, and maramataka seasonality knowledge; with the production, harvest, and management of kai (when, where, how, why, and who), including sustainability of kai resources.

*Rāhui and rauiri* – are important tikanga associated with the management of mahinga kai. Rauiri is the setting aside of food reserves for the exclusive use of certain groups of people, e.g. the elderly. Rāhui is a prohibition placed on food gathering areas to allow the resource to recover. If a fatality has occurred in these areas, then a rāhui may be established to ensure that the mauri of the person concerned is not desecrated by the consumption of food from that particular food gathering area.

*Tikanga* – are the appropriate or 'right' practices associated with all mahinga kai activities. Māori believed that the correct practice of tikanga was essential to protect the mauri of both the person or people carrying out a mahinga kai activity, and the kai itself.

*Kaitiakitanga* – the conservation ethic embodied in the practice of kaitiakitanga is important for the sustainable management of natural and physical resources. The use, management, and control of these resources are carried out to the mutual benefit of people and resources.

*Mana* – the practice of kaitiakitanga is carried out by iwi and hapū through the exercise of iwi and hapū mana, embodied in the concept of tino rangatiratanga. Mana is derived from mana atua, mana whenua, and mana tupuna.

*Tapu and noa* – all taonga are tapu. The tapu of taonga needs to be removed temporarily, in some cases, before people can make use of them. Karakia are important for the removal of tapu and rendering taonga noa.

*Whanaungatanga* – Māori share a common whakapapa with other taonga, and therefore share a strong sense of responsibility and reciprocal obligations toward taonga. This forms an important part of a holistic worldview. All taonga are inter-related, inter-connected, and inter-dependent. The mauri of taonga must be protected. The sustainable management of taonga is therefore paramount.

- 3 Assessment against this unit standard can be conducted in a number of ways that may include but is not limited to – oral presentations, visual presentations, written presentations, whakaari, waiata, haka.
- 4 Mahinga kai activities may include but are not limited to – gathering shellfish, gathering wild foods, fishing, hunting, trapping.
- 5 Assessment of skills may occur within individual or group settings. However, each candidate must demonstrate individual competence.

## Outcomes and performance criteria

### Outcome 1

Explain mahinga kai in relation to how Māori connect to the taiao.

#### Performance criteria

- 1.1 Mahinga kai is explained in relation to how Māori connect to the taiao and in accordance with tikanga.
- 1.2 Examples of mahinga kai are explained in terms of Māori connections to the taiao.  
  
Range        three examples are required.
- 1.3 Mahinga kai is explained in terms of how Māori connect to the taiao and the importance of these connections.

### Outcome 2

Explain mahinga kai in relation to how Māori use taonga of the taiao.

**Performance criteria**

- 2.1 Mahinga kai is explained in relation to the use of taonga of the taiao and in accordance with tikanga.
- 2.2 Mahinga kai is explained in terms of examples of the use of taonga of the taiao.  
Range three examples are required.
- 2.3 Mahinga kai is explained in terms of the importance of the use of taonga of the taiao.

**Outcome 3**

Explain mahinga kai activities in relation to the maramataka.

Range a minimum of three mahinga kai activities is required.

**Performance criteria**

- 3.1 Mahinga kai activities are explained in relation to the maramataka and in accordance with tikanga.
- 3.2 Mahinga kai activities are explained in terms of the importance of the maramataka.

<b>Planned review date</b>	31 December 2025
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**Status information and last date for assessment for superseded versions**

Process	Version	Date	Last Date for Assessment
Registration	1	27 February 1996	31 December 2015
Revision	2	11 December 1996	31 December 2015
Review	3	29 April 2003	31 December 2015
Revision	4	14 October 2004	31 December 2015
Rollover and Revision	5	12 December 2013	31 December 2017
Review	6	19 November 2015	31 December 2023
Rollover and Revision	7	27 June 2019	31 December 2023
Review	8	25 March 2021	N/A

<b>Consent and Moderation Requirements (CMR) reference</b>	0226
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This CMR can be accessed at <http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/framework/search/index.do>.

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**Comments on this unit standard**

Please contact the NZQA Māori Qualifications Services [mqs@nzqa.govt.nz](mailto:mqs@nzqa.govt.nz) if you wish to suggest changes to the content of this unit standard.